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TECHNOLOGY FOR THE FAST-PAVED LIFESTYLE

Spred

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THE BRAINY BUNCH

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Sam Pinto



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VINYL vs HIGH-RESOLUTION AUDIO

ALTO
MEDIA INTERNATIONAL, INC.

JULY 2015

ISSN 1655-9827



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HOW TO COMPRESS LARGE VIDEO FILES, WIRELESSLY CONNECT YOUR MOBILE DEVICE TO AN HDTV, AND OTHER LIFEHACKS

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See the Great, Feel the Great

LG G4

THE ALL-NEW HR-V

TIME TO CROSS



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Cover Sam Pinto
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Makeup Pong Niu
Hair Renan Bautista



OWN THE ROAD WITH A NEW SUZUKI BIKE
POWERFUL BOLD AGGRESSIVE



BRACE FOR AN
EXX HILARATING RIDE
COMING SOON

CLICK PLAY

Watching videos and listening to music online wasn't always fun.

Back when we had slow computers and dial-up connections, streaming just didn't make any sense. Why would you want to waste five precious minutes staring at the buffering icon just to watch a two-minute YouTube clip?

But streaming media has come a long way since then. With a broadband connection, you can now watch and listen to what you want when you want.

And that's where the allure of watching videos/listening to music online lies—it's flexible and convenient. Thanks to streaming, you can start watching a show on your phone or tablet at the breakfast table, continue during your commute to work, and finish on your computer while having lunch at your desk.

Plus, there's economics to consider. Why pay for a whole album when you only want to listen to a handful of songs? With streaming services, you can consume content that you like for free or at affordable subscription rates.

Streaming is creeping more and more into the mainstream, and it's causing a shift in how we consume entertainment. Apple recently unveiled its long-awaited on-demand music service called Apple Music. iFix announced its local presence a couple of months ago (check out our interview with iFix Philippines country manager Sherwin Dela Cruz on p.106). Meanwhile, Spotify, SoundCloud, YouTube, and Vimeo continue to be outstanding sources of hours of entertainment.



The question now is: Will online streaming kill traditional media? It's too soon to tell. For now, let's just sit back, click play, and enjoy.

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Editor-in-Chief



PHOTO FROM 123RF.COM

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Contributors

Karl Medina is an aspiring artist who is into the outdoors and loves the beach. The U.P. Fine Arts graduate won Best Actor for his first movie, a 2013 CineFilipino Film Festival entry *The Guerilla is a Poet*, where he portrayed Jose Ma. Sison. He believes that life should be lived to the fullest, and in the saying that “try everything at least once.” See behind-the-scenes snippets of his indie projects on his Instagram account [@karlmedinasty](#).



Carmela Maraan Fernando is a writer, editor, and creative manager for a US-based website network that specializes in web design and development, content marketing, podcasting, music, tech, and video games. A lover of randomness, she's also passionate about parenting, psychology, food, books, copywriting, handcrafted jewelry, and karaoke. You can find some of her work at [Blogussion.com/Author/Carmela](#) or email her at [carmela_m_xxx@yahoo.com](#).



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Elwyn Zalamea is a 52-year-old father to a kid and a kidder, and a music lover who sits on the board of the Philippine Blues Society and produces the blues-based series of shows called “The Blues And Roll Sessions.” He collects records and operates New Vintage Culture, an online vinyl shop that sets up a physical store every Saturday at the Greenfield Weekend Market. He is also the business representative of rock icon Dong Abay and his band.

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Way of Life!

Inbox



LOVE YOUR JUNE ISSUE!

Hi, Speed.

I'm glad I did not miss your June 2015 issue on digital photography! As a budding photographer/videographer, I really appreciate the latest cameras you featured, not to mention the diverse topics on photography tackled—from the evolution of cameras, to drones and underwater shooters, plus your feature on the people behind a shoot. Reading the recent issue made me look back at my current photography gear (and get to better understand some specs I didn't usually mind).

Your magazine also kept me updated on the latest tech and lifestyle trends, which I admit I can barely catch up on at times.

I'm excited to see how technology (and your magazine) will continue to innovate. More power, Speed!

Shane David



SCOSCHE

Hey, Shane. Thanks for the love! We're glad we did not miss your message in our sea of email. And because we thoroughly enjoyed hearing from you, we're giving back the love via this **Scosche boomBOTTLE** rugged and weatherproof wireless speaker worth P6,950. Please drop by the Speed HQ to claim your gift.

Black is back

Hi! Just wanted to say I'm so happy to see Sara Black featured in *Speed*. I'm a photographer myself (an amateur one) so it's great to read about the person who did the cover for the magazine—putting the spotlight on the person behind the lens and not just his or her subject. I like that you also featured the other people behind the shoot.

Adrian C.

More lists, please!

Dear Speed,

I got a copy of your 12th Anniversary Issue during the cover signing with Marian Rivera at Powerbooks. I've browsed your magazine before at Starbucks and at the salon, but to be honest, the May 2015 issue is the first copy of *Speed* I ever bought. And guess what? You've found a new fan!

I really enjoyed reading your May 2015 issue. To think I'm not even what you'd call a techie. It's full of good articles and has a nice mix of short and long articles. My favorite though are the 12 lists you featured. I disagree with some of your choices, but I know they're all subjective anyway. The important thing is that I was very entertained and engrossed reading it. I wish you can make lists a regular part of your magazine. I noticed that your June 2015 issue doesn't have one :(

To the people behind *Speed*, thank you for putting out a great mag! Looking forward to reading more.

Jam Roman

We want to hear from you!

Send in your thoughts and comments about *Speed* by dropping us a line or two at editorial@speed-mag.com.



Speed feed



@jascurtissmith:
Looove how fast but how well this shoot turned out to be!
Thank you Speed :*
#GeekIsTheNewSexy
#Techie #JuneCover
#JCSCover

@johnestebanph: Why so perfect? :)

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@ellaaa.mae: Gorgeous Jas!

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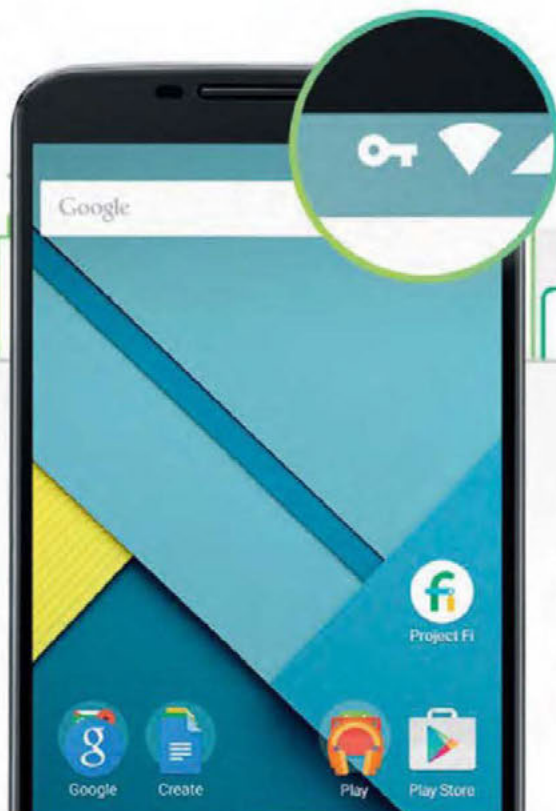
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Trending

TECH FRONTIERS



NEW WAY TO SAY HI!

Google Project Fi

Words **PAT CALICA**

"HEY, BABE. I'M SO—" BEEP. BEEP. BEEP.

IF THERE'S ONE THING A LIVID GIRLFRIEND AND AN INTERMITTENT PHONE SIGNAL HAVE IN COMMON, IT'S THIS: BOTH WILL NEVER LET YOU GET A WORD IN EDGEWISE.

But with Google's Project Fi, you now only have to worry when the lady will cut off your apology.

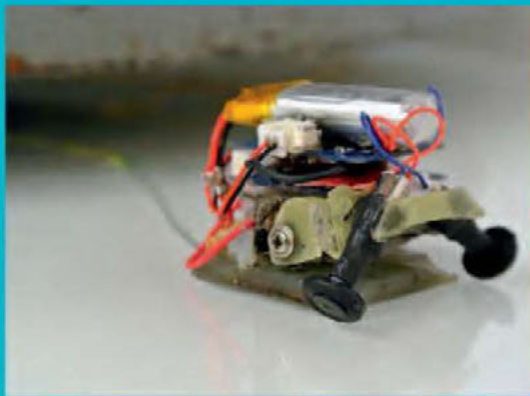
Google comes into the mobile carrier space as a mobile virtual network operator (MVNO) through Project Fi, and acts as a middleman between customers and service providers. The company partnered with two service providers in the U.S.—Sprint and T-Mobile—and used their infrastructure to provide more reliable and affordable mobile service. Not only that, Google also makes use of the more than one million free, open Wi-Fi hotspots in the U.S. as part of its network.

Here's a gist of the how: Project Fi lets your mobile device automatically hop between 4G LTE networks and Wi-Fi hotspots, depending on which connection is the strongest and fastest, so you never have to go offline anymore. The transition between networks is seamless that it won't interrupt your video streaming, music listening, and searching. Data security is not an issue either, as Google encrypts your data when you connect to Wi-Fi networks.

Making Project Fi more appealing is its pricing. Google charges \$20 monthly for the talk, text, Wi-Fi tethering, and international coverage services. That's almost half of what other U.S. service providers offer. You can also add \$10 per gigabyte of data each month; the company will refund a part of it if you don't use all of it.

As of writing, only the Google Nexus 6 flagship is compatible with Project Fi, and sadly, the service is limited in the U.S.

Ant-Man COMES TO LIFE?



Karen Ladenheim, Biomimetics and Dexterous Manipulation Lab, Stanford University

RESEARCHERS AT STANFORD UNIVERSITY HAVE RECENTLY CREATED A NUMBER OF TINY BOTS THAT CAN MOVE AND LIFT THINGS UP TO 2,000 TIMES ITS WEIGHT. One such robot, μ Tug, is a 12g gecko-like robot that has the superhuman strength equivalent to a human moving a blue whale. Another 9g robot can lift a kilo load while, a 20mg robot can move up to 500 milligrams of weight.

μ Tug, like the other tiny bots, has adhesives on its feet that can stick onto walls even while it is carrying humongous loads. The adhesives can easily detach when they have to move, enabling the bots to crawl like real geckos can.



QUIET A flight

AIRPLANE LUXURY AND COMFORT MAY DIFFER IN BUSINESS AND ECONOMY CLASSES, BUT THERE IS ALWAYS ONE THING THAT ALL PASSENGERS EXPERIENCE IN COMMON: a persistent airplane buzz that can be very unpleasant to the sensitive ear or the shallow sleeper. This annoying buzz is a direct effect of an airplane's "light" built.

An airplane's floors and ceilings are made up of a honeycomb structure that makes a plane lightweight but, unfortunately, allows for sound from its engines and rotor blades to pass through.

Professor Yun Jing and his team at the North Carolina State University ventured to look for a new insulator to reduce, if not get rid of, this airplane noise once and for all. They were able to develop a synthetic "metamaterial" that can cut down noise by 20 decibels by pushing sound waves opposite the normal direction of their travel. It will only add about 6 percent of weight to the honeycomb, therefore keeping it light. Yun Jing attests that what the metamaterial can do is "the equivalent of reducing the noise of a busy road to the rumble of a washing machine."



www.123rf.com/profile_zabelin

Words SARAH KATRINA MARAMAG

IT SHOOTS. IT STEERS. It scores!

WHAT'S THE USE OF A SPEEDING BULLET IF IT'S AS BLIND AS A BAT OR IF THE SHOOTER IS AS NEAR-SIGHTED AS A RHINO? The U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) thought about it, and its Extreme Accuracy Tasked Ordinance (EXACTO) program came up with a self-steering bullet that can hit even moving targets.

This new technology enables a bullet to be manipulated even after firing, something that has not been possible until recently. For as long as the shooter aims the laser dot (or some other optical designator) on

whatever he or she is targeting, the bullet will drive itself there regardless of a crosswind or if the target changes position.

The EXACTO bullet is a top secret project, so it is not really clear what device enables these "smart bullets" to think for themselves. But tracking systems such as TrackingPoint's precision-guided rifle and scope have been using lasers and other optical designators to lock on to targets at long or difficult ranges for some time now. With the EXACTO, even first-time target shooters can hit their targets on the first try, lousy aim or not.

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60x OPTICAL ZOOM
VARI-ANGLE MONITOR

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- 16.0-megapixel image sensor
- EVF with eye sensor
- Snap-back Zoom function
- GPS, GLONASS & QZSS support
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At the heart of the image





David Tenenbaum

Finally, A NEEDLE-FREE BLOOD TEST

THOSE SUFFERING FROM AICHMOPHOBIA CAN NOW REST EASY AT THE DOCTOR'S OFFICE. A new blood sampling device developed by Tasso Inc. works without needles. The HemoLink blood sampler is cheap and convenient, but best of all for needle-phobics, it does away with the painful pricks and the dreaded needle.

With this revolutionary blood sampling device, a routine blood test can be conducted by patients themselves at home in about

two minutes and mail the sample to the lab for analysis. The device works with vacuum pressure to draw blood through small open channels and into a small tube without having to puncture the skin.

The process, known as capillary action, works through forces that direct the flow of fluid streams even against the force of gravity. HemoLink can collect about 0.15 cubic centimeters of blood that can be used for a wide range of diagnostic applications. About the size of a ping pong ball, the blood sucker is made from six injection-molded plastic parts. And because it's inexpensive, it's disposable.

Smartphone microscope DETECTS PARASITES

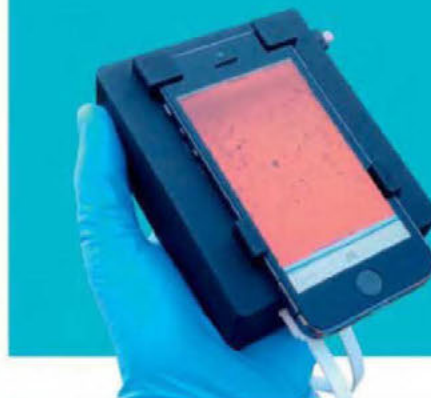
YOU RELY ON YOUR SMARTPHONE FOR ALMOST EVERYTHING, FROM TRACKING YOUR WEIGHT TO GETTING YOU A DATE, TO PREVENTING YOU FROM BEING LATE. BUT DID YOU KNOW THAT YOUR MOBILE DEVICE CAN ACTUALLY DO MORE THAN THAT?

Researchers from University of California, Berkley have developed a microscope for the smartphone to detect and quantify freeloaders in your blood. The device, called CellScope Loa, can detect Loa Loa parasitic worms that can be transmitted through repeated bites of deerflies common in West and Central Africa.

The CellScope Loa is a 3D-printed holder with a high-power lens, a circuit board, an LED array, and a Bluetooth module. The blood sample is loaded into the CellScope, which

then takes five-second videos of blood samples. The companion app will look for signs of movement from the microscopic worms. The final count is shown on the phone, which tells doctors whether the treatment could be potentially dangerous.

The CellScope is particularly useful for remote places where a lab is not accessible.



DRIVERLESS TRUCK IS LICENSED TO DRIVE

WOULDN'T IT BE A DREAM TO HAVE A CHAUFFEUR DRIVE YOU AROUND, ESPECIALLY THROUGH THE NIGHTMARISH CONGESTED ROADS OF MANILA? But wouldn't it be more awesome if the driver doesn't have to take days off and can wait for you outside the club 'til 4 in the morning while you partied like it's 1999? That dream can soon be a reality, because a self-driving truck has recently been cleared to take to the streets. Pretty soon, your car may follow its lead.

The Freightliner Inspiration Truck by Daimler Trucks North America (DTNA) is a concept autonomous vehicle that links together a

camera and radar technology with systems for lane stability, speed control, braking, steering, and collision avoidance. It features an advanced dash display that makes safe autonomous operation in highways possible. The basic idea behind the Inspiration is for the system to control the truck when on highways, while the driver deals with exits, local roads, and freight yards.

For now though, autonomous vehicles are not completely driverless. Someone still needs to sit by the wheel and take over in case of an unexpected hazard. You may have to renew your driver's license for now.

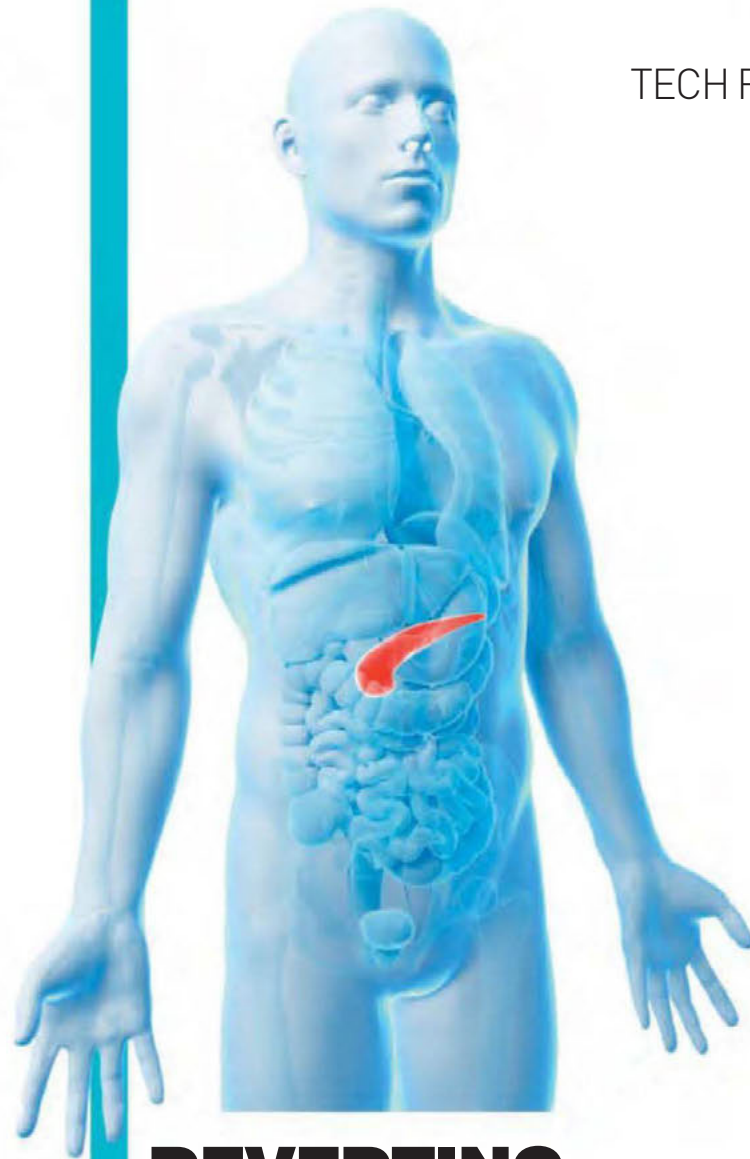
FROM WI-FI TO WIFO

THE LIFE FORCE OF THE DIGITAL AGE RUNS ON THE INTERNET.

Slow connection usually equates to slow progress, which explains the obsession for better connectivity and bigger bandwidth. And just recently, researchers at Oregon State University have figured out a way to increase Wi-Fi bandwidth tenfold.

Called WiFO, the system uses both Wi-Fi radio frequency and infrared LEDs to increase available bandwidth. The device, made with inexpensive available materials, can transmit data at about 100Mbps. However, the LED component can only transmit into reception areas about a meter in diameter. To get around this drawback, WiFO switches automatically between a number of LED transmitters and the existing Wi-Fi RF for seamless coverage.

The team also built photodiodes in the device to pick up the infrared data transmissions. Nguyen believes that if this invention takes off, the next generation of laptops will include a photodiode receiver.



REVERTING CANCER CELLS TO NORMAL

FOR THE LONGEST TIME, SCIENTISTS HAVE BEEN LOOKING TO CURE CANCER BY FINDING MEANS TO GET RID OF DISEASED CELLS. And although we've come a long way in cancer research, we haven't quite completely defeated it yet.

Maybe because we've been looking at it the wrong way. Perhaps, instead of trying to eliminate malignant cells, we should try to transform them back into their healthy state. And that's what researchers at the Sanford-Burnham Medical Research Institute, University of California San Diego, and Purdue University are working on.

The team has discovered a way to transform cancerous pancreatic cells back to normal by introducing the E47 protein, which bonds DNA sequences and reverts the cells to their original state.

"For the first time, we have shown that over-expression of a single gene can reduce the tumor-promoting potential of pancreatic adenocarcinoma cells and reprogram them toward their original cell type," reveals Pamela Itkin-Ansari, lead author of the project. "Thus, pancreatic cancer cells retain a genetic memory which we hope to exploit."

The researchers have been testing the use of heightened levels of protein on mice, and so far, results have been promising.

New drug delivery system for EPILEPSY



CURRENTLY, THERE ARE NOT A LOT OF REMEDIES THAT EFFECTIVELY TREAT EPILEPSY. THE FEW OUT THERE PRESENT HARMFUL SIDE EFFECTS, WHILE OTHERS ARE REPELLED BY THE BODY'S NATURAL DEFENSES BEFORE THEY COULD EVEN REACH THE NERVE CELLS THAT CAUSES THE SEIZURES. But just recently, specialists from the Institute of Systems Neuroscience, École des Mines de Saint-Étienne, and Linköping University have figured out a way to directly deliver drugs into the brain to inhibit the relevant areas of the brain without affecting the healthy regions.

The treatment directly targets nerve cells in the brain with the use of an electronic

micropump that is 20 times thinner than hair. The treatment also uses an anticonvulsant drug that restrains specific areas of the brain without affecting the other healthy regions. Using electrical current, ions that carry the drugs are pumped into the affected cells. Once the target is reached, the ions then activate receptors in the brain that affect the central nervous system. The team also plans on integrating an implantable microchip with the treatment, which activates itself before a seizure starts.

So far, the micropump treatment has been introduced to mice in vitro. The next step is to test the cure on live animals.

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LIGHT UP THE future

Words ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

DOES PLANTING EDIBLE FOOD IN SPACE SOUND IMPOSSIBLE TO YOU? HOW ABOUT CREATING ALTERNATIVE FUEL USING LIGHT? IT MAY BE TIME TO START BELIEVING IN THE ONCE IMPOSSIBLE.



Scientists today are trying to mimic the photosynthetic ability of plants to produce food for space missions and to manufacture alternative chemicals for multi-industrial use.

One such technology is the AstroGo system, a 3D-printed garden pod design that grows edible food even in space. It combines printing technology with artificial photosynthesis to produce food notwithstanding zero gravity—something that could save astronauts from packing along tons of groceries onboard the spacecraft.

An AstroGro pod grows food using LED lights, a watering system, and an electronic monitoring system, while artificial intelligence monitors and ensures plant growth. Temperature, lighting, and hydration settings can be controlled and customized through a smartphone.

Another artificial photosynthesis system developed by Berkeley Lab and UC Berkeley researchers can help in manufacturing biodegradable plastics, pharmaceutical drugs, and liquid fuel by synthesizing acetate from carbon dioxide and water. This is achieved by semiconducting nanowires and bacteria. (Acetate is one of the most common building blocks of biosynthesis and comes as a versatile chemical intermediate.) This process can prove vital in providing green, alternative sources of energy.

So, whether or not you have plans of going to space, there's an artificial photosynthesis technology for you. May you not go hungry again.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF hybrid

Words ERIK PAOLO ESCUETA

IT'S HARD HAVING TO SHARE A CAR WITH A SIBLING, SPOUSE, OR PARENT, ESPECIALLY WHEN YOU BOTH NEED TO USE IT AT THE SAME TIME FOR DIFFERENT REASONS.

Enter the Lane Splitter Concept Car, which gives an entirely different meaning to the automotive concept of a hybrid.

Imagined by Mark Wilson of *Fast Company* and visualized by Argodesign, the Lane Splitter Concept Car takes design cues from the *Batman* Tumbler ATV and the visual concepts of Syd Mead (of *Tron* and *Blade Runner* fame). The Lane Splitter's car mode definitely looks like something out of a science fiction movie. Hubless front tires give it a streamlined look, and the individual roofing on either side resemble fighter cockpits more than automotive windshields.

But it's when the Lane Splitter goes into bike mode that it finally shows its wild side—splitting into two separate motorcycles at the press of a button, making any action movie hero blush with glee. Each bike is powered by a rear electric

engine for maximum power. The front wheels split a bit to give more stability on the ground. And when you decide to go back

into car mode—also at a button's press—the two bikes automatically align and dock without much fuss.

Conceptually, it's stunning and makes for an impressive two-for-one deal, but Argodesign says it's still a first pass at the concept, and more work will be needed to make it affordable and efficient on the road. It may be a while before we see the Lane Splitter showcase its mode-switching at high speeds, but it's a promising prospect for a cost-effective ride.

BIOPRINTED SUPERHUMAN EYEBALLS



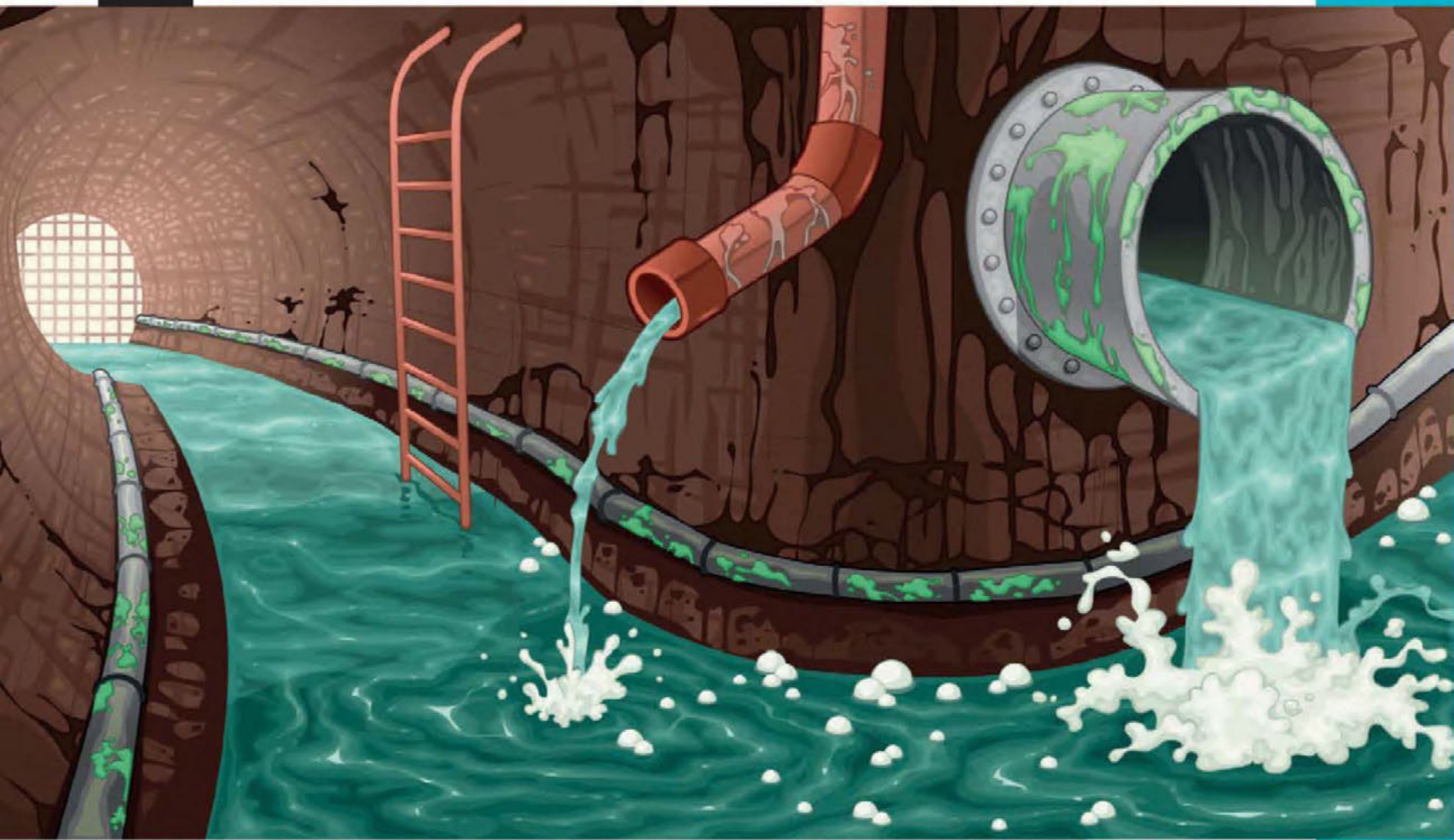
X-RAY VISION MAY NOT BE ON THEIR FEATURE LIST, BUT ITALIAN RESEARCH FIRM MHOX IS LOOKING TO IMPROVE YOUR EYESIGHT IN OTHER WAYS WITH THEIR ENHANCE YOUR EYE (EYE) BIO-ENHANCEMENT PRODUCTS.

Essentially artificial synthetic eyeballs designed to replace your existing optics, EYE comes in a range of 3D-printed models offering a specific array of features. EYE Heal, for instance, are simply designed to restore vision to the blind and visually impaired as replacements. EYE Enhance and EYE Advance models, on the other hand, throw in digital enhancements such as color filters, improved acuity up to 15/10 vision, and even wireless communications for streaming and recording video.

While purely conceptual as of this moment, lead designer Filippo Nasetti nonetheless has a detailed and accurate vision of how EYE will work. By introducing a new organic

component called a deck, which surgically replaces a recipient's natural eyes, EYE models can be swapped in and out onto the deck. The connectors between EYE through the deck are made possible by muscle fibers connected from the deck to the optic nerves.

As the population continues to increase their use of visual media through screens and gadgets, a means of prolonging one's use of their eyesight and improving their precision is not only welcome but also a must. The concept of EYE may sound a little far-fetched now, and being a surgical procedure means it entails a high level of risk, but it is an interesting answer to a potentially growing problem.



CRAP, UNLIMITED BEER!

Words **SARAH KATRINA MARAMAG**

IN PORTLAND, OREGON, A WATER TREATMENT OPERATOR HAS CHALLENGED LOCAL BEER BREWERS TO MAKE HOMEMADE BEER FROM A NEVER-HEARD-OF INGREDIENT: TREATED SEWER WATER.

advanced water purifying system, even sewer water can now be transformed into a refreshing beverage.

The contest is sponsored by the Clean Water Services, a utility in charge of four wastewater treatment plants within the state. Clear Water Services' treated

The Pure Water Brew Challenge is a local contest aimed at promoting and creating awareness among townsfolk on how to utilize a vital resource such as treated sewer water. Thanks to Portland's

water, according to its spokesperson Mark Jockers, is "significantly cleaner than what the safe drinking standards are for water that comes out of taps across the United States."

Clean Water Services sponsored a similar contest last year in which brewers were required to use water from the river and 30 percent of their purified water. This year's competition requires 100 percent of so-called "sewage brewage" and is expected to gather in more concoctions than the year before.

For the challenge, Clean Water Services is releasing 300 gallons of purified water to some 20 home brewers from the Oregon Brew Crew, Portland's oldest home-brewing club. Beer brews will be judged later this month or early August by a panel of beer experts.

Winners will then have their brews taken to an international water conference in Chicago. The sad news is, while the utility's treated water has been approved for public consumption, beer from the contest cannot be for sale in any commercial stores in Portland or elsewhere.

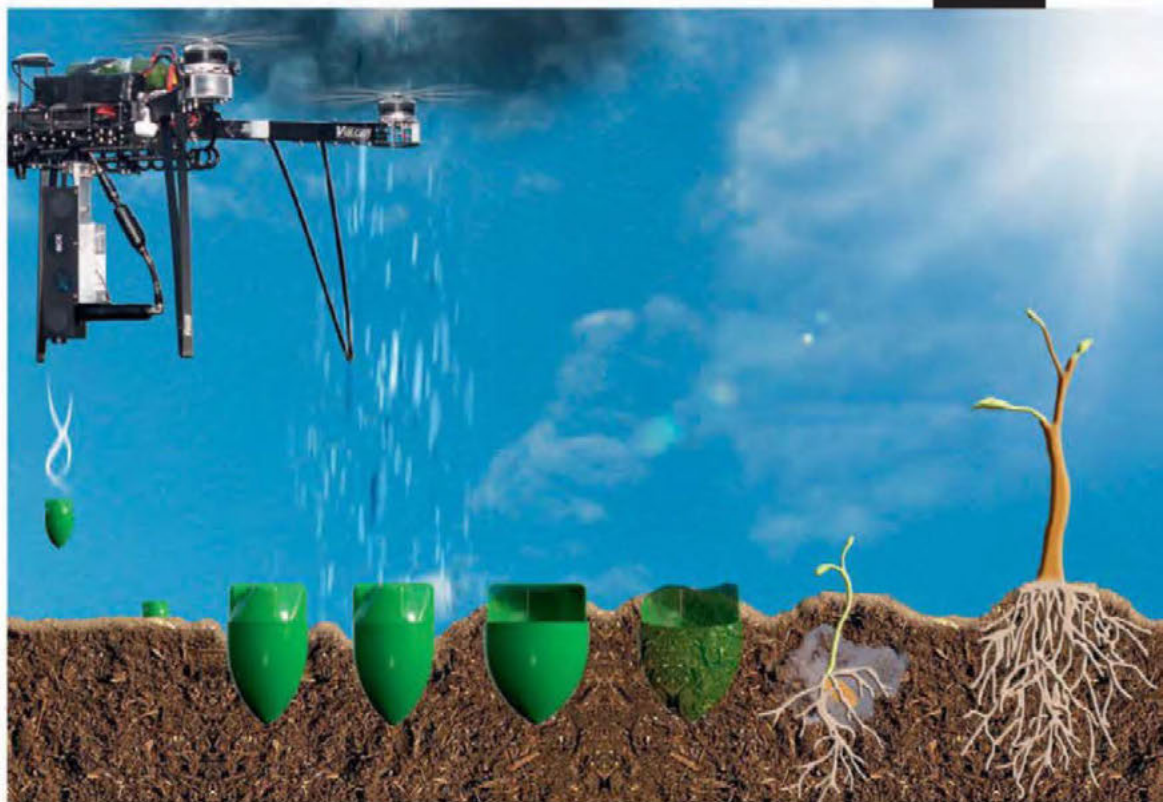
SUPERSIZE TREE

NO MATTER HOW FAST WE PLANT TREES TO COUNTER DEFORESTATION, THEY JUST DON'T GROW FAST ENOUGH.

But there may be hope: researchers at the University of Manchester have discovered a way to make trees grow bigger and quicker with a little help from gene manipulation.

A team led by Professor Simon Turner successfully modified the PXY and CLE genes of poplar trees. These genes are responsible for the growth and rate of cell division in tree trunks. Although poplar trees are already fast-growing, overexpressing the genes resulted to the trees growing twice as fast as normal. They're also taller and wider, and have more leaves.

Turner says that although these gene manipulations still need field testing, the discovery will contribute to meeting the needs for increased plant biomass and beating climate change in the process.



DRONES VERSUS DEFORESTATION

HOW DO YOU PLANT ONE BILLION TREES A YEAR WHEN HUMAN HANDS CAN ONLY DO SO MUCH? A startup has thought of a high-tech way to counter industrial-scale deforestation.

Ex-NASA engineer and now BioCarbon Engineering CEO Lauren Fletcher plans to enlist the help of drones to make this dream a reality. But these ain't no dainty drones; they're muscle-mechs that can carry loads of

pre-germinated seeds housed in biodegradable pods. The drones shoot these pods to the ground, allowing them to thrive and grow with the help of the nutrient-rich gel that coats and protects them.

Before the drones set out on their mission, though, a different set of drones takes the frontlines first to scout for areas to drop the seeds. These drones produce a detailed 3D map of the area to help the team analyze and project the best possible way of reforestation.

OIL SPILLS? WHAT A MESH!

OIL SPILLS ARE A VERY SERIOUS ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD, BUT RESEARCHERS AT OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY HAVE FOUND A WAY TO CLEAN 'EM UP BY LOOKING TO NATURE FOR INSPIRATION.

A team of experts led by Prof. Bharat Bhushan and Philip Brown tried to replicate the water-repelling nature of butterfly wings and lotus leaves, and the bacteria-repelling ability of sharkskin to create a mesh that lets water pass through but keeps oil at bay.

The fine steel mesh is coated with silica nanoparticles—a fine layer of hydrogen and carbon—that attract water and repel oil. The result: water flows through the mesh while oil remains on top.

Creating the mesh is inexpensive, too—about \$1 per square foot—and it can be reused once the oil has been transferred to a container.



Jo McCully, courtesy of The Ohio State University



GRUB FROM THE GROUND

STORING FOOD UNDERGROUND HAS BEEN A PRACTICE LONG BEFORE THE REFRIGERATOR WAS INVENTED. But unlike our squirrel friends' beloved nuts, our food was kept in root cellars, that is, underground pantries with cool, weather-stable temperatures.

Now, Dutch sustainable products company Weltevree aims to reduce our electric consumption by bringing back this practice with Groundfridge, an easy-to-use and portable root cellar that keeps food fresh without the need for electricity.

Groundfridge resembles an orb with a raised hatch entrance, and is equipped with a lighting and shelving system that allows you to store up to 500kg of food, including fresh produce.

The average American fridge has a 500-liter capacity, and Groundfridge is the equivalent of six fridges. At 300kg and 2.28m in diameter, it can be installed underground in your own backyard. It's made of hand-laminated polyester with a tight-sealing door, and has a constant temperature around 10°C (a one-meter layer of soil works as insulation) so you don't have to worry about food spoilage when the weather changes.

Isn't it impressive how living like our forefathers seems so future-forward now?

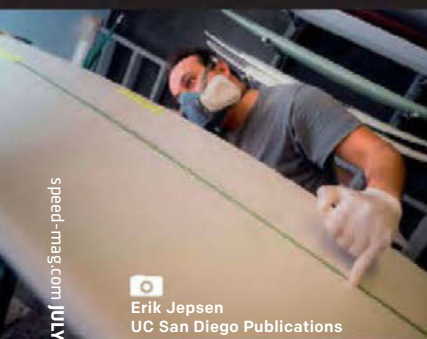
FUEL FOR THOUGHT

AUDI HAS CREATED THE FIRST E-DIESEL FUEL MADE FROM AIR AND WATER. AND NO, THIS ISN'T A MAGIC TRICK.

Sunfire, the company's pilot plant, has developed this process by using electricity harnessed from wind, solar, or hydropower sources to produce hydrogen from water through reversible electrolysis. The resulting hydrogen is mixed with pre-converted CO₂, which includes greenhouse gases sucked from the atmosphere. This produces a liquid made from long-chain hydrocarbons called "blue crude," which is eventually refined to create the e-diesel.

According to Audi, the creation of this fuel has an overall energy efficiency of around 70 percent, and their comparative analysis shows that the e-diesel's properties are superior to fossil fuel. It's also environment-friendly because it doesn't contain sulfur and fossil-based oil. Just like other types of biodiesel fuel, this e-diesel can be combined with conventional diesel fuel for everyday use.

The company targets a daily output of 160 liters of synthetic diesel in the coming months, and may eventually release it for commercial use at around €1-1.5 per liter.



SURFING ON THE GREEN

IF ALGAE FLOATS ON WATER, IT FOLLOWS THAT ANYTHING MADE OF ALGAE CAN FLOAT AS WELL, RIGHT? THAT'S WHAT THE RESEARCHERS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN DIEGO (UCSD) PROVED WHEN THEY CREATED THE WORLD'S FIRST SUSTAINABLE ALGAE-DERIVED SURFBOARD.

Headed by UCSD professor and algae genetics researcher Stephen Mayfield, the project involves converting algae oil into polyurethane foam for making surfboards. He enlisted the help of fellow UCSD professors Robert Pomeroy and Michael Burkart, along with several chemistry students, who determined how to chemically change waste algae oil into polyols, which are then catalyzed with silicates. This mixture expands into a sturdy and buoyant material that can be used to make surfboard blanks.

The resulting foam is finished off at surfboard company Arctic Foam, where it is augmented with fiberglass and coated with an eco-friendly resin, producing a more environmentally sound surfboard.

This green surfboard meets Mayfield's goals in helping San Diego's surfing community protect the ocean that they love so much. Makes perfect sense.

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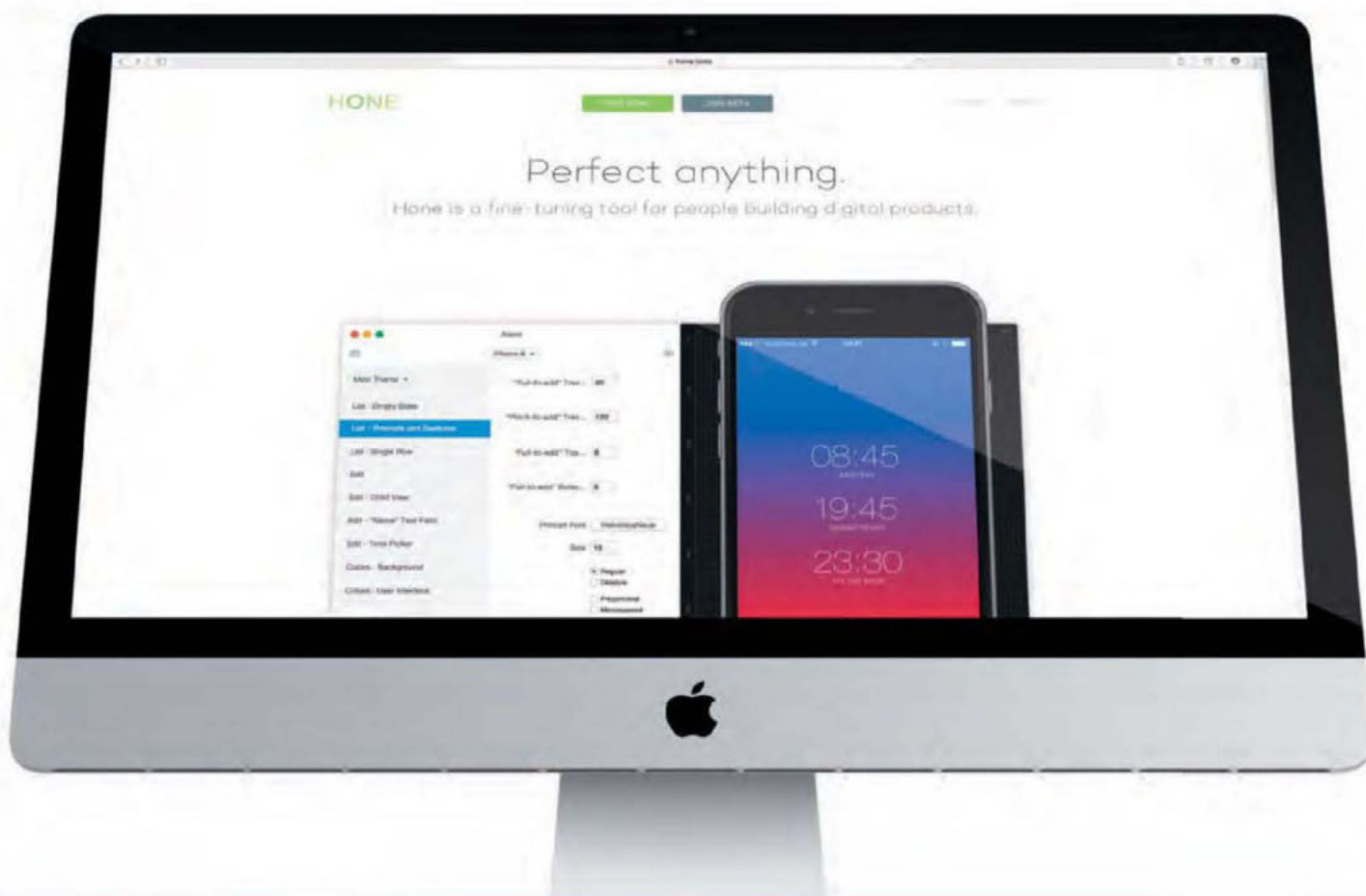
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BREAK THE CODE

Tweak iPhone apps sans coding

Words **MARTIN CUYEGKENG**



YOU'VE HEARD OF 7-YEAR-OLDS BUILDING THEIR OWN APPS AND BECOMING MILLIONAIRES OVERNIGHT. NOW, HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE ONE BY SIMPLY PRESSING BUTTONS?

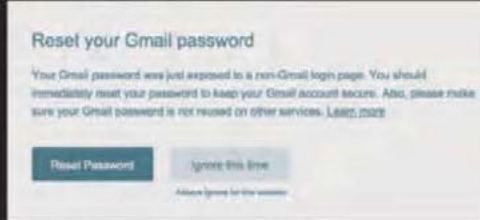
Hone (hone.tools) may have found a way to make that dream a reality. Hone is a desktop software designed to instantly and dynamically tweak the appearance of iPhone and Mac apps without having to code. (The trio who created this software is in the process of allowing Android users and other platforms to take advantage of this digital tweaking app.)

Jaanus Kase, an engineer, together with Sergio Palomo and Priidu Zilmer, both designers, built the software to allow designers to play around with how their apps will look.

With Hone, designers can save time by skipping the step of having to sit down with a coder to see how their app will aesthetically turn out. It's like using a digital camera, wherein you can instantly see how your pictures will look like versus using a film camera and having to wait for your pictures to get printed.

To see how the software works, you can download the alarm clock demo app on your iPhone and install the Hone demo app on your Mac. Once they're in place, it's just a matter of switching on the developer mode of the alarm clock app in your phone's settings and syncing your phone with your Mac. Whatever you do on your Mac is reflected instantly in the app on your phone.

FIGHT PHISHING



THE WORLD WIDE WEB IS BIG AND BEAUTIFUL, BUT IT'S ALSO SCARY AND FULL OF THREATS. GOOGLE WANTS TO MAKE YOUR BROWSING EXPERIENCE MORE SECURE WITH A NEW CHROME EXTENSION FOR GMAIL USERS.

Called Password Alert, the new addition to the Google security family is a free Chrome extension that helps protect Gmail login passwords from cybercriminals and their websites pretending to be Gmail. If you enter your Google password on that website, Password Alert will let you know that "Your Gmail password was just exposed to a non-Gmail page" and that you should change your password immediately.

Password Alert is also helpful if you're the type who uses a single password across numerous accounts. The security extension is able to identify when you key in the same login credentials for a different account aside from Gmail. Like the phishing alert, it encourages you to keep your Gmail password solely for your Gmail account and create a different one for other sites.

THE PERFECT EMAIL

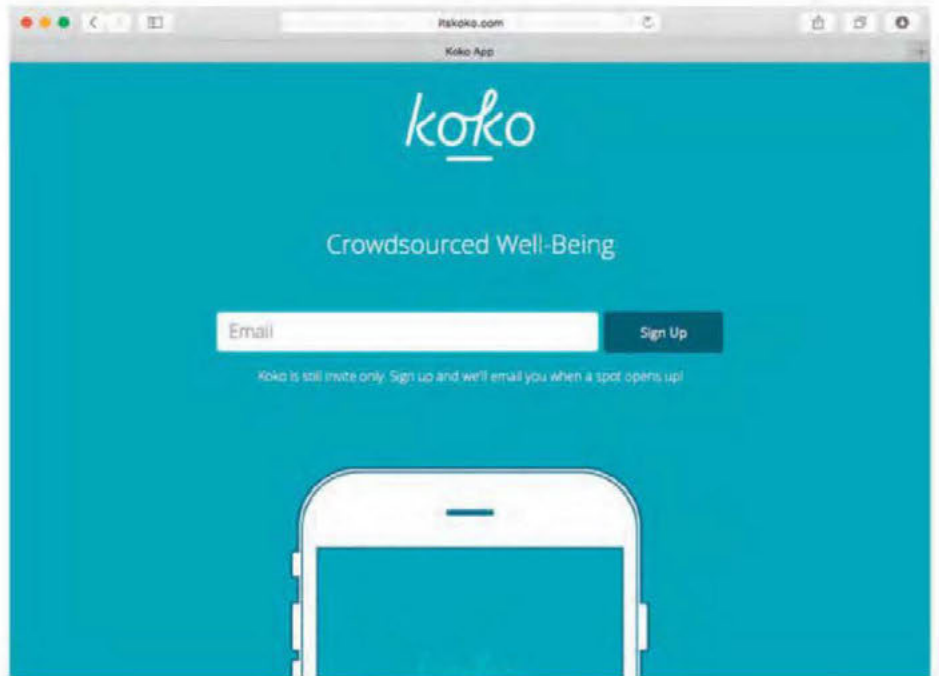
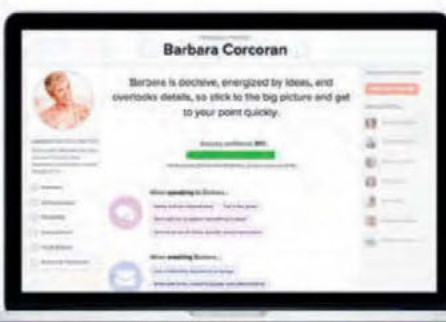
WRITING AN EMAIL CAN BE TRICKY. To get your message across, you need to tailor your email to different people based on their preferred style of communicating. There's no software or app that can magically generate the perfect email—yet. But here's some good news.

Crystal (crystallknows.com) is a Web app that corrects your email based on the personality of the person you are sending it to. It doesn't write your email for you; instead, Crystal presents you with a more appropriate option to the way you write your email to make your recipient receptive to it. The Web app predicts the word, phrase, style, and tone in which your recipient may be commonly used to and be more responsive to.

Crystal manages to do this by building an estimation of your recipient's personality based on public social media posts and basically any public information found on the internet, whether written by themselves or someone else.

For example, you're writing an email to your boss who's number one concern is the bottom line. Crystal will teach you to be direct with your message and suggest that you write your email in three sentences or less.

Next time you get stuck writing an email, consider Crystal. Sign up and get yourself invited to "the biggest improvement to email since spell-check."



Social media THERAPY

SOCIAL NETWORKS LIKE FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM ARE MAKING A KILLING—AND PANOPLY WANTS IN ON THE FUN. NOT FOR THE INCOME OR ANYTHING, THOUGH, BUT FOR A HIGHER PURPOSE.

think you may be suffering from anxiety or depression, the site hopes to use the power of the online community to encourage you to open up and reach out to peers and seek support.

Panoply teaches users a therapeutic tool called cognitive reappraisal. You simply have to share with the community your problems and reaction to your stressor, and the community responds with an alternative outlook on the situation. Social networking with responsibility, if you may.

Morris is now working on turning Panoply into a consumer app. Called Koko, the app is currently invite-only, but you can already sign up at itskoko.com if you feel you need the help of the online world to improve your mental health.

Robert Morris from MIT teamed up with Stephen Schueller, a clinical psychologist from Northwestern University, to design Panoply, a social network platform that aims to help calm anxieties and treat depression. If you



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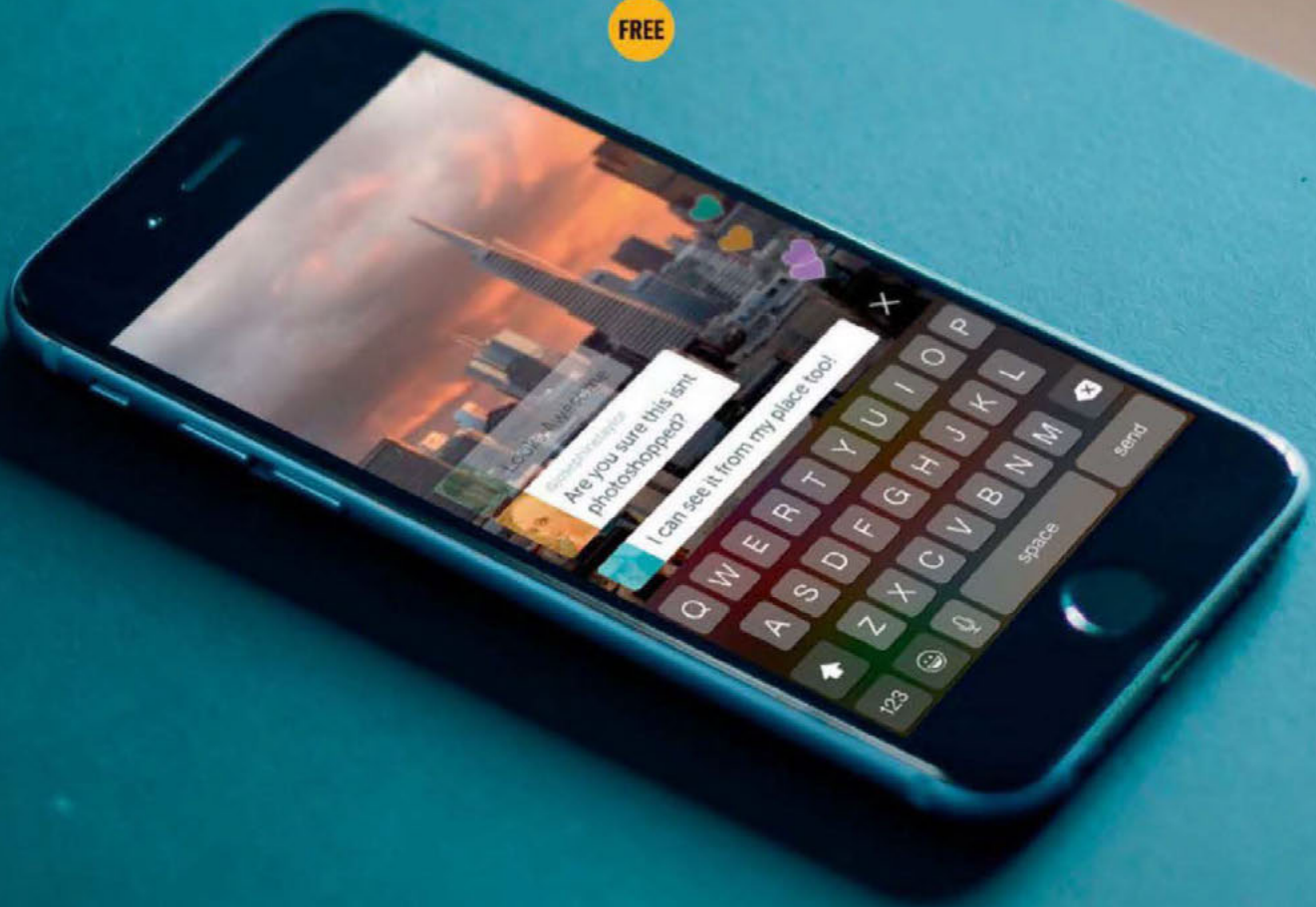
NOW ON AIR: YOU

Periscope

Platforms: Android, iOS

Words **ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN**

FREE



NOW YOU CAN BROADCAST LIVE VIDEOS TO THE REST OF CYBERSPACE RIGHT FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE.

Just when you thought Twitter has already got it made, the social networking service comes up with a new livestreaming app, Periscope.

Periscope allows you to log in using your Twitter account or mobile number, and follow your Twitter

friends who are already on Periscope.

Once your app is set up, shoot that momentous occasion by clicking on the center icon at the bottom of your screen (for iOS users) or the big red button (for Android users) to start a broadcast. You can even live share your broadcast on Twitter.

Not only does Periscope give you nearly omnipresent eyes, but it also lets you interact with friends and followers while on air. During live broadcast, your followers can

comment on what they're seeing, appearing as floating comments on your mobile screen. Floating little "hearts" indicate that your friends like your video treat.

No data connection? Offline friends need not worry because the replay feature allows them to view your video within 24 hours from broadcast. You can also choose who can see your broadcast to protect your privacy.

Sounds like a reality show on steroids. Take that, MTV.



FREE

HIPSTAMATIC DSPO

Platform: iOS

A fun twist to the meaning of the phrase “group photo,” Hipstamatic DSPO lets you create a group camera that you can share with your friends. The catch: no one can see the photos yet until the timer you set expires. Once the timer is up, you and your buddies can start commenting and picking out your favorite photos from the pile.

It's easy to set up, too. Simply start a group camera and invite your buds via Message, Facebook, or Twitter, then set the timer duration—which can be from an hour to even a year—and start shooting and chatting. You can even doodle and add effects to your photos before the great unveiling. DSPO also supports the Apple Watch, showing at a glance active group cameras and real-time activity updates from your friends.

FREE

Launcher

Platform: iOS

In iOS 8, the Notifications pane does a decent job of showing you real-time information such as weather and sports scores, in addition to all of your alerts and alarms. But Cromulent Labs thinks it can do more with its Launcher app.

Essentially an iOS 8 widget, Launcher lets you map direct app shortcuts on the Notifications pane for easy access. But Launcher goes the extra mile by also allowing you to map specific in-app actions (like making a Facetime call or posting on Facebook). Getting the Pro version (via in-app purchase) lets you customize Launcher further with additional rows and adjust the icons and labels.

There's a small snag—Launcher doesn't support every application on the App Store—but they're adding support for new apps every week, so it's not that big a blow.



POLITICS

CLINTON 2016

Hillary Clinton announced her 2016 presidential bid.

She'll be running under the campaign slogan "I'm a woman" whether she likes it or not.

FREE

FUNNY OR DIE NEWS FLASH

Platform: iOS

Funny or Die is one of the internet's favorite satirical sites of choice, with its humorous views on the latest news in politics, sports, and whatever else can generate an enjoyable clickbait article of nonsensical proportions.

Their latest app, Funny or Die News Flash, is a condensed view of today's top stories laced with FoD's usual brand of mocking. It's designed for the too-long-didn't-read crowd, each major headline taking up a full screen's worth of real estate with pretty Stockphoto-worthy videos playing in the background as accompaniment.

The app is also simple to navigate—tap to share or view the articles, swipe to switch between pages—and once you reach the end of the current news cycle, the app appropriately and literally requests you get off the toilet and back to work. Evidently, they know their audience quite well.



/SpeedMagazinePH



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\$6.99

Skelly: Poseable Anatomy Model

Platforms: Android, iOS

Need to study and visualize the human skeleton, whether for art or for school? Well, you certainly no longer have to worry about renting a model from your local library or hospital for reference. Proko's got an app for you.

Skelly is a poseable anatomy model suitable for artists and medical students who need an on-the-go reference. You can tap on a joint of this anatomically correct skeleton to bend and twist him. This can be used to inspire poses when you need to illustrate, animate, paint, or sculpt a human body.

The app also lets you adjust the light source, choose between a light or dark background, and select a simplified version called Robo-Skelly should you not need a highly detailed skeleton.

\$4.99

GOAT SIMULATOR GOATZ

Platform: iOS

Sure, you loved the original *Goat Simulator*, but why stop there? Coffee Stain Studios has created a new chapter with *Goat Simulator GoatZ*, which features no less than zombies for an absurdly entertaining game.

Its features include a mandatory crafting system and a survival mode with a 5-minute hunger clock that forces you to binge on something (or someone) else you die. So, if you feel like living out your inner undead, check this one out.



\$2.99

THE ROBOT FACTORY

Platform: iOS

The Robot Factory is kids' app company Tinybop's first in a series called "Digital Toys." The app is what it sounds like: a factory—albeit digital—that lets you mix and match more than 50 parts to create any robot you can imagine. It even comes with an obstacle course where you can test the robot you created. You can even record your own robot sounds, make your robot dance, and save and collect them in your digital showroom. How's that for child's play?



FREE

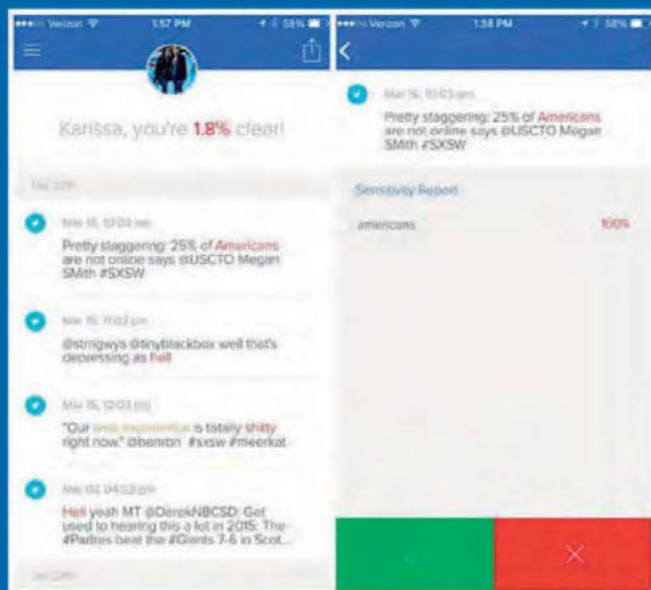
DOES NOT COMMUTE

Platforms: Android, iOS

As if driving in real life isn't stressful enough, here's a curious puzzle driving game that can, well, drive you nuts. But at least you can while away the time while you're stuck in traffic.

Developed by the makers of *Smash Hit*, *Does Not Commute* is set in the 1970s and features colorful characters going about their daily lives and commute. What starts off as a chill drive, however, quickly escalates into traffic frenzy as you progress in the game. After completing the route of one driver, another person will appear and you'll have to control his car while the previous one is still in effect (temporal paradox). So while you start with one car, by the end of that level, you'll be controlling over 10 cars driving around town—all at the same time. As you can imagine, it's one heck of a mess, so you need to plan your route well.

Another cool thing: *Does Not Commute* features a quirky cast of characters with their own individual stories that all connect to create a bigger story. Intrigued enough? Go ahead; download the game and step on the gas because you're in for a wild ride.



FREE

Clear
Platform: iOS

Admit it, you've posted some stuff on your social networks that you didn't mean to—some you even regret. Thankfully, you can now get rid of your ugly online past with an app.

Clear is designed to trawl through your social networking accounts and flag potentially inappropriate or offensive posts. You'd need to link your Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram account for the app to check them.

The app uses a combination of algorithms and IBM's Watson supercomputer, primarily highlighting watchwords and the traditional obscenities and vulgarities. Clear's algorithms are still being fine-tuned.

Once the app retrieves these potentially offensive and politically incorrect posts, you can review them and decide whether or not you want to delete them.

FREE

LETTERCRAFT
Platform: iOS

Looking for ways to spice up your vocabulary? There's a new app that lets you test your mind and mettle.

Lettercraft is a word game that can be played alone or with friends via Bluetooth. You start with a 5x5 grid of letters (called "tokens"), and you need to form as many words as you can before time runs out. Some levels are craftier than others, challenging you to come up only with words longer than five letters, for example.

You can play the first five levels of *Lettercraft* for free, and when you feel like you're up for some more wordgasm, there's an in-app purchase that lets you buy the rest of the levels for your enjoyment and education.

REALISES



\$9.99

DUCKTALES: REMASTERED
Platforms: Android, iOS

A blast from the past is what you'll get with this iOS game. In *DuckTales: Remastered*, you play Scrooge McDuck and journey through the Himalayas, Amazon, Transylvania, the African mines, and the moon to look for five legendary treasures.

Collect precious gems along the way to unlock new content, and defeat some powerful bosses along the way.

This reboot of the original NES classic kept basically everything the same gameplay-wise. The visual were redone, however, to look just like the classic animated show. Game options let you choose the difficulty level, so you get to relax on Easy mode or own the stage in Extreme mode.

A 3D-PRINTED FUTURE

When

I first heard of 3D printing, I wasn't very impressed at the examples I had seen. Huge 3D printers seemed to grind away for hours to produce brightly colored coasters, coffee mugs, and tiny toy animals. That was seven years ago.

During this year's International Consumer Electronics Show (CES), I witnessed just how powerful and affordable 3D printing had become. The printers themselves had shrunk to the size of PC workstations while the range of materials they use is continuously diversified.

What 3D printers can produce now are simply stunning—bespoke smartphone cases, wearables, prosthetics for animals (e.g., a replacement foot for an injured bird), performance parts for exotic supercars, and even very specialized components for rocketships being shot into space. It became clear to me that if there was one transcendent technology happening right before my eyes, it's 3D printing's evolution.

While not as prevalent as the latest smartphone technology or as popular as the new wearables in the market, the leaps we're seeing in 3D printed technology are real breakthroughs that offer staggering possibilities even today.



Take for example the story about the first 3D-printed object in space. Ground controllers sent the printer onboard the International Space Station a command to create a faceplate that identifies the printer maker. This demonstrated that the printer can make replacement parts for itself.

Now, imagine what else it can do. What if a very specific tool was needed to mend and repair the space station? Manufacturing one on Earth and jetting it up would cost a ridiculous amount of money and resources. With 3D printing, the ground control team can design the schematics of the tool and send this to the space station, which will then download the plan and use the 3D printer to manufacture the rare but super necessary one-of-a-kind part.

3D printing is also accelerating the engineering of various industries that once relied on manufacturing expensive models and prototypes. The very nature of 3D printing is that you can print a one-off. If that doesn't work, you can make adjustments and just print another. This is far quicker and cheaper than creating molds and manufacturing a few dozen parts that will only be discarded should they be deemed unusable.

Carmakers such as Lamborghini and Porsche are now able to print

modifications to their race-specced cars and prototypes on the fly using lightweight materials that suit the requirements of supercars. The materials are also incredibly durable and can withstand tremendous stress and heat, making them ideal for high-performance racing.

There are also many science and medicine applications for 3D printing. For example, dentists can now print out accurate crowns and dentures that even have the same color and patina as an individual patient's other teeth.

For very rare and extensive surgery, it is possible to 3D-print an accurate model of a patient's internal organs so that doctors and surgeons can not only visualize the operations but actually simulate using a very specific model and practice the surgical procedure before they open up a patient. This saves time, expensive operating room costs, and possibly, people's lives.

There are various exciting and inspiring examples out there of how 3D printing is making a difference in our lives today. The technology continues to be more affordable, and there's a high likelihood that we will soon be seeing 3D printers in our homes and offices to be used for practical purposes. [S](#)



GADIO CARDENAS
SEVILLA



THE BRAINY BUNCH

Sony Android TV

Words ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA

SONY HAS HAD ENOUGH AND FINALLY PUTS ITS FOOT DOWN: THE BOOB TUBE IS AN IDIOT NO MORE. Following orders from the leader of the band, the new BRAVIA lineup of smart 4K TVs lands in the Philippines—and each of them is powered by Google's latest operating system, Android 5.0 Lollipop.

Yes, these television sets' software is more updated than your P30,000 smartphone's. And no, you can no longer call them stupid.

The new Sony Android TVs come in 43 to 75 inches, so there's a smart TV for just about every living room. But we're focusing on the crème de la crème of the bunch, the X9000C.



1 In TV land, there's a never-ending battle to give you the highest resolution possible. Available in 55 and 65 inches, the X9000C isn't the largest Android TV in the market, but that only means you get a higher-resolution display because it packs the same amount of pixels within a smaller area.

2 Don't have 4K content yet? No problem. The X9000C uses the new 4K Processor X1 in tandem with the 4K X-Reality PRO to deliver clear pictures that show contrast and colors that are full of life. The engine also boosts your content no matter its source—TV broadcast, DVD, Blu-ray disc, or even the internet.

3 The X9000C boasts a special Ultra Slim Design, allowing the frame to achieve a thinness of only 4.9mm—again, much thinner than your P30,000 smartphone. The X9000C also features edge-to-edge viewing thanks to its almost negligent bezel, ensuring that you get the maximum screen size with the least distraction from its frameless design.

4 This TV can't be called smart if it weren't for the Google OS installed. And because the X9000C is running Android Lollipop, you also get access to the Google Play Store, where you can get third-party and more Google apps just like you do on your Android smartphone or tablet.

5 Admit it. Your mobile game might be totally rad, but the diminutive display of your mobile device makes it such a doozy. Via Google Cast, pair your Android mobile device with a Sony Android TV to broadcast your smartphone's or tablet's content to the TV screen. When playing mobile games, this gives that video game console experience that you crave.

6 Still haven't found what you're looking for? Your TV may be smarter than you, but you have in your possession an unprecedented power: the remote control. The X9000C's remote control comes with a built-in microphone, so take full advantage of Google's Voice Search and tell the telly what to do.



THE BOLD ONE

Sony BRAVIA X9400C

The crisp, charming, and clean big brother may be getting all the praise—for now. But the loud one in the family isn't taking the sidelines with nary a fight.

Standing loud and proud at 75 inches, the X9400C comes with built-in front-facing speakers that demand your undivided attention. Equipped with tweeters, woofers, and sub-woofers, the X9400C produces high-resolution audio that gives you clear dialogue and deep bass.

Just like the X9000C, the X9004C takes advantage of Sony's 4K Processor X1 but chooses the help of the TRILUMINOS Display technology for an expansive color range. Still with Android OS installed, it gives you access to Google Play, Google Cast, and Google Voice Search.



Boom far, far, and away **BOOMPADS Wireless Headpods**

Boompods makes its way to the Philippines, and of their wide range of audio products exclusively sold at Lazada, zoom in on the Wireless Headpods, and don't let yourself get tied down. With a 350mAh battery, this pair of Bluetooth 4.0 headphones promises three hours' worth of wireless listening up to 10 meters from your music source. Lounge around the house from your bedroom to the backyard, with the Headpods paired with any Bluetooth-enabled media player or smart device and blasting 20Hz to 20KHz of sound. Choose between matte white and matte black to complement your mood and music.

Price: P4,600



SOUND SWEAT

B&O H6 Rapha Edition

WHETHER YOU'RE TRAINING FOR THE BIG RACE OR SURVIVING STAGE AFTER STAGE TO GET TO THE PODIUM, THESE BEOPLAY HEADPHONES WITH A FREQUENCY RANGE OF 20 TO 22,000HZ ARE BUILT TO KEEP YOUR CYCLING SOUNDTRACK PLAYING THROUGH IT ALL.

You can sweat it on your beloved two-wheeler without worrying about these 230g B&O headphones, as the earpads are covered with the same Black African sheepskin that the Rapha GT gloves come in, and the headband inner is protected with the material that Rapha products use for coping with copious amounts of sweat. If you can't afford a Rapha bicycle for that winning form, at least get winning headphones for style and sound fitting of a champion.

Price: \$429

Words ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA

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Stand up and shout
MARSHALL Kilburn

Music is a universal language, so don't just be listening alone in your room right by where your speakers stand. With Marshall's Kilburn, you get to bring around a Bluetooth-enabled active stereo loudspeaker with bass reflex system and share to the world your good taste in music for 20 hours straight at 50 percent volume level. Weighing 3kg and donning that sexy vintage Marshall look, the Kilburn stands loud and proud with you no matter your choice of genre, with its 4-inch woofer, two 3/4-inch dome tweeters, and two 5W and one 15W Class D amplifiers.

Price: \$300



Style, quality, comfort
JAYS u-JAYS

Whether you're an iOS, Android, or Windows user, you deserve auditory goodness that doesn't discriminate. The Jays U-Jays headphones use evenly distributed vent holes with tuning filters all around the 40mm dynamic speaker to achieve a deeper bass and produce increased detail. The spring steel headband is coated with silicone to give you hours of listening in comfort. For added durability, stainless steel is used in its core, while wires are integrated within the frame. It doesn't really matter what your music source is; what matters is how the sound comes out on the other end. Price: \$200



SCRATCH THAT ITCH
DJIT Mixfader

WE SUPPORT YOUR DJING DREAMS. THAT'S WHY WE SCoured THE 'NET FOR A TOOL THAT COULD HELP TURN YOU FROM WANNABE TO PRO.

The Mixfader from startup DJIT pairs with your mobile device to let you "scratch like a turntablist" and "mix all your tracks" on the Mixfader app as you please. For some serious street cred that can convince you to back up their Kickstarter campaign, DJIT even got two-time DMC World DJ Championship-winning group 9 O'Clock to help with the design and creation of the Mixfader. The result: the Mixfader claims to record the "lowest latency level" despite connecting wirelessly via Bluetooth. That means, you don't hear much difference, if at all, when using Bluetooth, which always registers a lower quality sound than a wired connection. As of writing, you can still get DJIT's Early Bird package by pledging €69 to get your Mixfader by November.

Words ARITHA ZEL ZALAMEA



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Real TVs have curves
LG 105UC9 Super
UHD TV

Branded as the world's first ever 105-inch curved SUHDTV, the LG 105UC9 comes out swinging with 11 million pixels and a 21:9 CinemaScope aspect ratio. LG's 105-incher uses true 4K Engine Pro and an IPS 4K panel, allowing you to upscale your non-4K content to near-ULTRA HD quality. The 105UC9 also features LG's ULTRA Surround and Film Patterned Retarder (FPR) 3D technology, aiming to give the best cinematic experience possible.



Quantum entertainment
TCL Quantum Dot TV
H9700

Is OLED not enough for you? TLC is rolling out a new type of television that could bring home the bacon. At 55 inches and sporting 100 percent NTSC (full-gamut color), the new Quantum Dot TV H9700 promises to bring out world-class home entertainment—both in style and in specs. Quantum dots are nanocrystals typically added on top of the backlight layer of an LED TV, breaking down the LED light and turning it into rich and vivid colors. The H9700 also comes with a platform for both Android and Linux, and is adaptable to all smart TVs in other global regions.



H8800



E6800

FRATERNAL
TWINS

TCL H8800 and E6800

BOTH OF THESE UHDTVs PACK MAJOR SPECS AND A CHEEKY EXTERIOR. The H8800 sports a 4000R curve that's meant for wide-angle viewing, has a broad color gamut, and comes equipped with S-level Harman Kardon speakers. The E6800 has pretty much the same features sans the curved screen, but with the addition of a 360-degree revolving stand.

Words JOHN SOSMEÑA



cherry mobile

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1.7GHz
Octa

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FLARE S3 OCTA

1.4GHz Octa-Core
5" HD Display
13MP & 5MP Camera
8GB ROM | 1GB RAM
Micro SD up to 64GB



FLARE XL

1.4GHz Octa-Core
5.5" HD IPS OGS Display
USB-OTG
8GB ROM | 1GB RAM
Smart Gesture



FLARE S3 POWER

1.4GHz Octa-Core
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USB-OTG
8GB ROM | 1GB RAM
Miracast Ready



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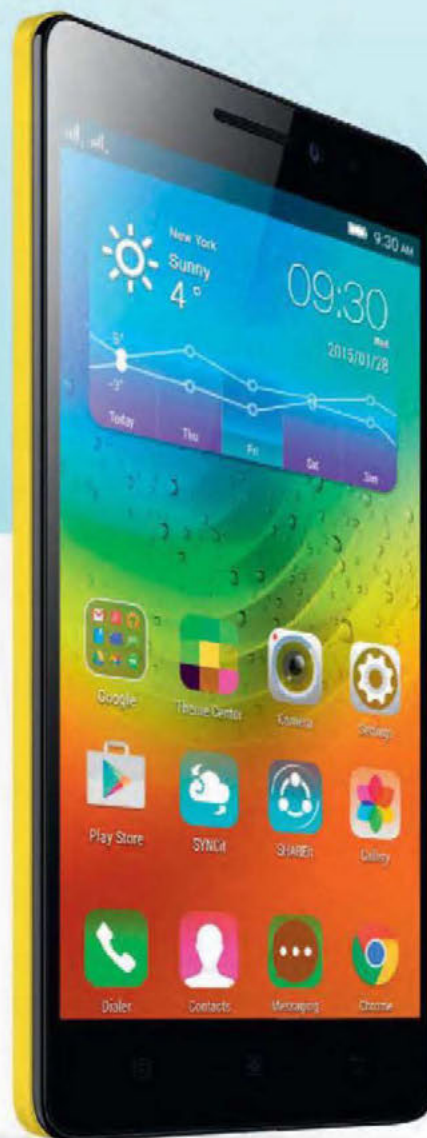


cherrymobileph



Rock the roads **LENOVO A7000**

Long road trips can't be perfect without music to spice up your ride. Whether you prefer metal, acoustic, or pop, the Lenovo A7000 promises to provide just the perfect soundtrack to your otherwise boring life. It is the first smartphone equipped with the Dolby ATMOS technology, which boosts sound quality. And when you add the 5.5-inch display, 1.5GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6752M processor, 2GB RAM, an expandable 8GB internal memory, LTE connectivity, 8MP rear and 5MP front cameras, and 2900mAh battery, the A700's P7,390 price tag suddenly becomes something worth writing songs about.



Infinity 2 Lite



Infinity LTE

AND BEYOND!

MyPhone Infinity 2, Infinity 2 Lite, and Infinity LTE

MYPHONE RECENTLY UPGRADED ITS INFINITY SERIES, OUTING THE INFINITY 2, INFINITY 2 LITE, AND INFINITY LTE.

The flagship Infinity 2 (P12,799) leads the pack with a 5-inch 1280 x 720-pixel screen resolution, 1.5GHz octa-core processor, 2GB RAM, and an expandable 16GB internal storage. LTE connectivity, a 13MP rear shooter equipped with a Sony Sensor, and a 5MP front camera matched with a front flash make this smartphone more interesting.

The Infinity 2 Lite (8GB: P7,399; 16GB: P8,399) boasts a similar frame size but is powered by a 1.4GHz octa-core processor. The Infinity LTE (P8,299) has a larger screen at 5.5 inches and is equipped with a 1.2GHz Snapdragon 410 processor, 1GB RAM, and an 8GB internal memory.

Words ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN



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Combi Brake



Combined Brake System (CBS)*

Honda's advanced technology that helps balance the front and rear wheel braking optimally, allowing ease of operation of the brake by pulling the left brake lever.

*Available in CBS/ISS variant only



Idling Stop System (ISS)*

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PGM FI (Programmed Fuel Injection)

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Honorable warriors **HUAWEI Honor 4X, and Honor 4C**

True warriors value honor, and Huawei's latest lineup of midrange octa-core devices promise nothing less.

The Honor 4X (P8,990) boasts a 1.2GHz octa-core HiSilicon Kirin 620 processor but shoots serious fire with its 13MP rear and 5MP front cameras, promising dependable endurance at 3000mAh. It features a 5.5-inch 1080 x 1920 401ppi Full HD display.

The Honor 4C (P6,990) comes with a smaller screen at 5 inches but nearly the same processing power and shooting capability as the Honor 4X. The 2550mAh battery capacity should also be enough for a day's work.



4C



4X



CROSSING BORDERS

CloudFone Cloudpad Epic 8.9

STRANGE TERRAINS ARE HARD TO SCALE, BUT HERE TO GUIDE US THROUGH UNCHARTED LANDS IS CLOUDFONE'S CLOUDPAD EPIC 8.9.

The Epic 8.9 is the master of two worlds—the Android realm and the Windows empire—as its Crossover Technology allows easy switching between the pre-installed Android KitKat 4.4 and Windows 8.1 operating systems.

Besides a 1920 x 1080-pixel resolution Full HD IPS display, it has a powerhouse 1.8GHz quad-core Intel Atom processor, 32GB internal storage, 5MP rear and 2MP front cameras, making this a beast of a device. Now you can fearlessly tread on, hesitant wanderer. This creature got your back.

Price: P8,999

Words ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN



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1 At 6.4mm-thin, the all-metal P8 slips effortlessly in your pocket. It comes in a beautifully crafted unibody form factor and features a triple-layer construction that Huawei describes as a “shark-gill” design.

2 The P8 is wrapped in a special liquid-repellent nano-coating to protect the device against spills, splashes, and sweat.

3 Watch, browse, and read on the 5.2-inch Full HD display. Care to tweak the color tone? Huawei lets you do that through a temperature slider in the Settings menu.

4 The 13MP snapper boasts of a DSLR-standard image processing chip that promises to capture the high contrast and low light details of your subject. It’s also equipped with the world’s first four-color RGBW sensor that aims to improve contrast and reduce noise in low-light conditions.

5 Got shaky hands? The P8’s camera features an Optical Image Stabilizer that corrects up to 1.2°, making videos look smoother and low-light photos sharper.

6 Get creative with Director Mode (direct and control up to three other Android phones when shooting a video scene from four angles simultaneously) and Light Painting Mode (capture light trails created by moving cars, stars in the sky, and the like).

7 The 8MP front-facing camera should make selfie lovers happy. Aside from Huawei’s standard beautification mode, there’s a Perfect Selfie mode that lets you create beauty presets. Vanity? Maybe. But we won’t judge.

8 The 2680mAh battery may seem small by today’s standards, but since the Kirin 930 octa-core 64-bit chipset offers lower power consumption and promises to boost performance by approximately 20 percent, you can expect the P8 to stay alive for one day of heavy use.

FASHIONABLE FLAGSHIP

Huawei P8

Words KATRINA RIVERE-DIGA

Huawei wants to go toe to toe with the big boys with its new flagship phone, the P8. This Android Lollipop device comes with competitive specs that you can’t simply dismiss: 2GHz Kirin 930 octa-core 64-bit processor, 3GB RAM, 16GB built-in memory, and enhanced technology and software.



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Sta.Lucia, Ayala Cebu, Cagayan De Oro, Sportmart Dutyfree Fiesta Mall, T3 Fashion Rack and Ayala Fairview ;
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Sunglass Haven Newport, Bonifacio High Street, Olympic World Alabang Town Center, Glorietta 3, Gateway, Robinsons Place Ermita, Robinsons Magnolia,
Lucky Chinatown, Shangri La, Marquee Mall Pampanga, Harbor Point Subic, Ayala Center Cebu, Abreeza Mall Davao, Centro Ayala CDO and Central Citywalk RPB;
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To a T FUJIFILM X-T10

It's small, but it certainly gets the job done. The Fujifilm X-T10 comes around the bend with a complete suite of controls and features you'd love. Weighing less than 400g, this mini juggernaut produces 16MP images and features various modes to suit your photography needs. The X-T10 also comes with a 920K-dot tilting LCD, so you can catch those hard-to-angle shots you've always wanted. This CSC camera comes in two colors: Premium Silver and Sporty Black.



THE ME SHOW Lily

HERE'S YOUR CHANCE TO HAVE YOUR OWN PERSONAL DRONE THAT FOLLOWS YOU WHEREVER YOU GO. THINK SHOOTING YOUR OWN REALITY SHOW. Lily, the world's first throw-and-shoot camera, comes with a polycarbonate exterior and takes up to 12MP photos, and records 1080p @ 60fps and 720p @ 120fps videos while flying at a max speed of 25mph. Lily also comes equipped with a three-axis Gyro, a barometer, GPS, and an accelerometer. Fulfill your reality star dreams and grab Lily (if you can) to make the most out of your adventures.



IPHONE ILC Manfrotto Klyp+ for iPhone6 and 6 Plus

TAKE YOUR IPHONE PHOTOGRAPHY SKILLS TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH MANFROTTO'S KLYP+, THE IPHONE COVER THAT LETS YOU ATTACH AN LED LIGHT KIT AND EXTERNAL LENSES FOR DIFFERENT PHOTOGRAPHIC STYLES AND TRICKS SUCH AS FISHEYE, TELEPHOTO, MACRO, WIDE AND SUPER WIDE, AND POLARIZER.

Klyp+ also comes equipped with an anti-shock exterior and a universal tripod connector. Klyp+ is your new workaround for unleashing that photographer inside you, making switching lenses on your smartphone as easy as 1-2-3.

Words JOHN SOSMEÑA

asics

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Fuelmiser

HONDA BeAT Fi eSP series

How does 58 to 63 kilometers per liter sound to you? Music to your ears, we bet.

That's what the new Honda BeAT Fi eSP Series promises to deliver. eSP, which stands for Enhanced Smart Power, is an engine technology that combines high power with high fuel efficiency by minimizing friction thereby reducing wastage.

This 108.2cc scooter has a 4-stroke, air-cooled engine and a top speed of 94kph. It can go from 0 to 200 meters in 12.6 seconds. Other features include an 11.2-liter underseat space, secure key shutter, side stand switch, park brake lock, and combi brake system.

The Honda BeAT Fi eSP series comes in three color variants for its standard type model (P66,900), while the CBS/ISS variant (P69,900) comes in candy scarlet red or black.

**WORK OF ART****Deus Ex Machina BMW Heinrich Maneuver Motorcycle**

HERE'S A MOTORCYCLE THAT WON'T BE OUT OF PLACE IN A MUSEUM. CUSTOM MOTORCYCLE DESIGN HOUSE DEUS EX MACHINA CELEBRATES BMW'S TRADITION OF FORM AND FUNCTION WITH ITS INTERPRETATION OF THE BMW MOTRRAD R NINET.

The Deus Ex Machina BMW Heinrich Maneuver Motorcycle, named after German fuel tank designer Karl Heinrich, features a hand-fabricated, oversized gloss white and alloy tank "scaffolded on an internal labyrinth of alloy channels to offset the considerable fuel load."

Other notable features include a bespoke sub frame, a handcrafted kangaroo suede cafe racer-inspired seat, slightly repositioned foot pegs, and a Motogadget dash.

Words KATRINA RIVERE-DIGA



#Hitlist

Abreeza Mall • Alabang Town Center • Ayala Center Cebu • Centrio Mall • Eastwood •
Edsa Shangri-La • Estancia Mall • Glorietta 2 • Greenbelt 5 • Harbor Point Subic • Robinsons Forum •
Robinsons Magnolia • Robinsons Place Manila • Rockwell • SM City Cebu • SM Aura Premier •
SM Mall of Asia • Trinoma • V-Mall Greenhills

digitalwalkerstoreph digitalwalkerph

TOP
1



PROTAG

Peace of Mind on the Go

More than an anti-loss device and more than an app, the PROTAG Duet Bluetooth tracker, and the PROTAG app, is an entire eco-system built to prevent you from losing your smartphone and your valuables.

#protag

TOP
2



Enjoy your music while you workout with the Scosche sportCLIPS II. They fit securely over your ear with a flexible ear clip design to ensure that they won't fall off during physical activity.

#earphone

TOP
3



The ZeroChroma Vario Protect for the iPhone 6 and iPhone 6 Plus is an ultra-protective, transparent shell with all the benefits of ZeroChroma's signature mount-ready Flux-Stand. It allows 360 degree rotation and 8-position indexing so you can use your phone in both portrait and landscape modes.

#phonecase

TOP
4



blueLounge

The BlueLounge Kii is a key-shaped cable that fits on your keychain so you can charge and sync, wherever you go. Gone are the days of sudden panic when you realize you've left your charger behind.

#USBCable

TOP
5



The Witti Notti is a smart light with notifications. Now you don't have to constantly wait for that important call or message because the Notti will light up and inform you when you get a notification on your device.

#smartlight



Hip, hot Honda HONDA HR-V

Honda enters one of the hottest market segments today with its new five-seater compact crossover, the Honda HR-V.

Built on the Jazz platform, the HR-V combines the fuel economy and maneuverability of the subcompact hatchback with the taller driving position and larger cargo area of an SUV. It comes with Honda's ULT seats, which means they can be folded and flipped in three configurations—utility, long, or tall—to accommodate different kinds of stuff, from surfboards to bikes.

Under the hood of the HR-V is a 1.8-liter SOHC i-VTEC engine (139hp and 172Nm) paired with Honda's

continuously variable transmission (CVT). The top and mid variants come with paddle shifters and cruise control.

Other features include a 7-inch touch screen display, steering wheel-mounted audio controls, Smart Entry System with Push Start Button, and the Multi-Information Display (MID).

Here are the variants and prices: 1.8 S CVT (P1,190,000), 1.8 E CVT (P1,230,000), 1.8 E CVT Modulo (P1,290,000), 1.8 EL CVT (P1,340,000), and 1.8 EL CVT MUGEN (P1,500,000).

Bring out your checkbook!



ROAD TRIP-READY

Nissan NV350 Urvan

A VAN WITH THE PULLING POWER OF A PICKUP TRUCK—THAT'S THE ALL-NEW NISSAN NV350 URVAN, WHOSE 2.5L ENGINE IS BASED ON THE SAME PLATFORM USED FOR THE NP300 NAVARA. That means you can now drive up to Tagaytay or Baguio with ease and without needing to switch off the air-con even if you're hauling your family of 10 plus all your bags and *baon*.

If you're the designated driver, here's what's in store for you: a shift indicator on the dashboard that reminds you when to shift optimally to maximize the power of the van, a tilting steering wheel, and a seat that can be slid and adjusted, so you can drive in your most comfortable position. The shifter has also been moved to the instrument panel for easier access.

Now if you're the passenger, you'd be glad to know that aside from the spacious interiors and safety features, you can enjoy Nissan's legendary cool air experience even if you're seated at the back, thanks to the 12 vents on the Urvan's ceiling.

The all-new NV350 Urvan comes in Brilliant Silver and Alpine White colors. Should you opt for special colors such as Precision Grey, Black Obsidian, or Tiger Eye Brown, that can be arranged, but you'd need to give your Nissan dealer a three-month lead time. Prices are as follows: P1.183M (15-seater), P1.196M (18-seater), P1.177M (3-seater cargo van).

Words KATRINA RIVERE-DIGA



WATER WRIST-SISTANT

Edox Hydro-Sub Automatic Limited Edition

THE EDOX HYDRO-SUB DIVE WATCH HAS BEEN GIVEN A COOL UPDATE FOR ITS 50th BIRTHDAY. Like the original, the new Hydro-Sub Automatic Limited Edition is water-resistant up to 500m, and features an engraved case-back with a view of the earth as seen from the North Pole, the individual number of the watch, and an inscription marking the watch's 50th anniversary.

The 46mm dive watch comes with a special blue dial with white and green markers, and features an automatic movement, unidirectional rotatable bezel, and Edox's MasterLock feature. Only 515 pieces are up for grabs.



RACE-INSPIRED

Oris Audi Sport Limited Edition

CREATED TO CELEBRATE ORIS' PARTNERSHIP WITH AUDI SPORT, THE ORIS AUDI SPORT LIMITED EDITION IS BASED ON THE ORIS ARTIX GT SPORTS CHRONOGRAPH AND FEATURES A TUNGSTEN BI-DIRECTIONAL ROTATING BEZEL WITH A "GOOD GRIP" RUBBER INSERT.

The watch is finished in silver, Audi's signature color, and its overall look reflects the German carmaker's Audi road car dashboard instrument panel.

Limited to 2,000 pieces, this Oris timepiece is powered by an automatic mechanical movement and is available with a perforated leather race-inspired strap.

Clever and classy

FREDERIQUE CONSTANT Horological Smartwatch

One of the biggest complaints about smartwatches is that they're not designed for people who love watches. Well, not anymore with Frederique Constant's Horological Smartwatch. Yes, the purveyor of luxurious Swiss watches has jumped in on the bandwagon and partnered with Silicon Valley company Fullpower Technologies to create a watch that's clever and classy. Fullpower's MotionX platform allows the Horological to track your activities and sleep pattern.

The watch connects to an app on your Android or iOS device on which you set your activity goals. The smart counter positioned at 6 o'clock shows your activity throughout the day as a percentage of the goal you set.

The smartwatch is available with a 42mm stainless steel case and comes in silver or rose gold-plated versions with a variety of hand-stitched leather or metal link straps.



Modern curator

You live for the exhilarating feeling you get from discovering unheard of beauty: new works of art or groundbreaking performances to showcase to the world.

Representing creative people from around the globe, you must project an all-business image at the same time feel comfortable when in transit. Pair the navy (1)**Mango Reverse-knit Cotton Sweater** (P3,250) with the dark gray (2)**H&M Chinos Slim Fit** (P2,290). Wear the dark blue (3)**H&M Jersey Blazer** (P3,490) on top of your outfit when meeting a potential partner.

Create a high-end portfolio for your clients with the 16MP (4)**Panasonic Lumix G7** (\$600, body only). Sporting a Micro Four Thirds system, the G7 shoots 4K and packs a quad-core CPU for high-speed image processing. You can even snag a perfect still from a 4K clip with this mirrorless shooter's 4K Photo mode. Then let the (5)**OPPO R1x** (P15,990) keep you in touch with your network, wherever you are.

You're always on time and in style with the oversized (6)**Timberland Cadion watch** on your wrist, while your (7)**Hartmann Luggage** secures your stuff inside its luxurious and ergonomic design.



Words PAT CALICA



Glasstic®

shatterproof glass water bottle



16oz
470ml

A Safe Glass Bottle You Can Take Anywhere:

Car	Beach
Gym	Hiking
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Great for:

Hot or Cold
Beverages

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Parts

3rd Party
Tested

Distributed by:



The Purity of Glass...The Portability of Plastic



Multimedia monster

When it comes to music, movies, and games, you consume them like your lungs breathe air, and so you find yourself armed with the finest multimedia tools that allow you to devour audio and video content no matter the time and the place.

With the ultraportable (1)**ASUS Republic of Gamers (RoG) G501** (P59,995), you are geared for a digital battle wherever you are. This gaming laptop boasts legit RoG DNA: ultra-thin and light design, powerful Intel i7 processor, impressive gaming performance, 4K resolution, and upgraded cooling technology.

Hooked on the boob tube? Continue watching your favorite TV series on your other smart devices. The (2)**SanDisk Ultra Dual USB Drive** (P699) lets you transfer video files between your gadgets and smart TV with its featured USB 3.0 connector. Then secure all your gear inside the weather- and water-resistant (3)**Moshi Urbana briefcase**.

Balance your awesome tech with a laid-back ensemble: a black (4)**Zara Man Polo Shirt with Polka Dot Collar** (P1,595), a pair of white (5)**Zara Man Distresses Jeans** (P2,995), and the sartorial (6)**Mr. Porter x Filling Pieces sneakers** (£180.69). And don't forget to accessorize with the (7)**Veloci Cruise** timepiece.



Words PAT CALICA



VELOCI



VOYAGER
Collection



LIVE THE SECOND.

SM CLARK • SM FAIRVIEW • SM MANILA • SM MEGAMALL • SM MOA • SM PAMPANGA • SM SAN LAZARO
SM SOUTHMALL • MARKET MARKET • SM DEPARTMENT STORE • ROBINSONS DEPARTMENT STORE • L TIMESTUDIO

Indoor pollution detector **BITFINDER Awair**

Blow dust allergies goodbye. Here to detect unseen indoor pollution attacks is Awair, an air quality monitor by San Francisco-based company Bitfinder.

This air monitor tells you the air quality inside your home, allowing you to track temperature, humidity, dust levels, CO₂, and VOCs (Volatile Organic Compounds) present in the air.

When at home, Awair stays out of your way, with its small size making it easy to fit in any available space. Power consumption isn't a problem because it requires less than 0.05kWh in a month to operate. Keep a close eye on your indoor pollution by connecting Awair to your smartphone.

But make sure these alerts are not plain dead data that you merely analyze or else, using the device becomes futile. Still the best way to remedy your indoor pollution is to clean up. Awair merely suggests ways you can change your habits and serves as your smart warning device.

Price: \$149



SEEDS OF LOVE nthing Planty

So what if you don't have a green thumb? You have no more excuse not to try out planting or gardening and help Mother Earth. Spreading some green love and accessible planting is Planty, a connected smart pot that monitors your plant's activity right from your mobile phone.

Planty utilizes sensors to detect a plant's needs and sends you updates via Wi-Fi connectivity and notification alerts through its iOS or Android app.

This smart pot keeps a careful watch on the light, temperature, and humidity levels around your plant. A built-in 500mL reservoir also acts as a reserve tank in case you cannot water on the spot. But of course, all these only serve to help you out. You still need to play your role. Planty requires constant water replacement and of course, tender loving care.

Price: \$150



Words ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

HOW SAFE IS YOUR VITAMIN C?



THE NON-SODIUM, NON-ACIDIC VITAMIN C WITH CALCIUM

A HEALTHY IMMUNE SYSTEM IS YOUR BEST DEFENSE AGAINST BACTERIA AND VIRUSES, AND NOW THAT THE RAINY SEASON IS HERE—AS WELL AS THE ONSLAUGHT OF ILLNESSES THAT COME WITH IT—YOU NEED TO BOOST YOUR IMMUNE SYSTEM MORE THAN EVER.

Vitamin C is known as an antioxidant. Aside from helping in promoting healthy cell development and normal tissue growth, it also aids in the absorption of calcium in the body. However, taking too much vitamin C in pure ascorbic acid form can result in stomach upsets. Meanwhile, vitamin C supplements with sodium are being linked to heart disease, hypertension, and kidney disorders.

What makes Calcium-Cee different?

Calcium-Cee comes in calcium ascorbate form, which means it delivers both the collagen-building properties of vitamin C and calcium's mineral essentials. Because its formulation is gentler, Calcium-Cee can be taken on an empty stomach.

Megascorbic Therapy

Some nutritionists and scientists are promoting a megadosage of vitamin C—around 3,000 milligrams a day—to boost the immune system and combat deadly diseases such as diabetes, kidney malfunction, cancer, and heart failure.

Because Calcium-Cee is non-sodium and non-acidic, you can take megadoses of vitamin C without worrying about the side effects and added risks of sodium or acidic forms of other vitamin C supplements.

Other benefits of Calcium-Cee

- Strengthens immune system
- Supports healthy cardiovascular functions and strengthens blood vessels and capillaries
- Washes away toxins
- Helps make skin firmer and prevents wrinkles
- Helps keep teeth and bones healthy
- Eases mental stress
- Reduces insulin requirement of diabetics
- Increases vitamin E and iron absorption
- Promotes healthy healing of wounds and burns

Calcium-Cee is available at Mercury Drug.

A vibrant graphic celebrating Jack TV's 10th anniversary. At the top, the 'JACK TV' logo is displayed in yellow on a red rounded rectangle. Below it, the text 'PLAYS ITS 10TH YEAR THIS JULY!' is centered, with the '10' being significantly larger and surrounded by red confetti and streamers. Further down, the phrase 'COME AND PLAY WITH US. IT'S GONNA BE AN AWESOME YEAR.' is written in red. The bottom of the image features a colorful, abstract border with yellow, red, and blue shapes, including a beer can and a fist. Social media icons and the SOLAR logo are in the bottom left corner.

JACK_{TV}

PLAYS ITS
10TH
YEAR THIS
JULY!

COME AND PLAY WITH US.
IT'S GONNA BE AN
AWESOME YEAR.

Solid productivity tool

BLACKBERRY Leap

66



pg
PROVING
GROUND

WHAT WE TESTED THIS MONTH

July 2015

GEEK METER



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PRODUCT TEST NO.
1665

THE NUMBERS

Display5.1-inch 2560 x 1440 577ppi
Quad HD Super AMOLED dual edge**OS**

Android 5.0 Lollipop

CPU

Octa-core (2.1GHz quad + 1.5GHz quad) processor

Memory

32/64GB internal storage, 3GB RAM

Camera

16MP rear, 5MP front; UHD 4K @ 30fps

Connectivity

Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct and Hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0, USB 2.0, NFC

Price

P41,990 (32GB, reviewed); P47,990 (64GB)

**DIMENSIONS**
143.4 x 70.5 x 6.8mm, 132g

Fine points, rough edges

SAMSUNG GALAXY S6 edge

Review by PAT CALICA

While the GALAXY S6 edge is probably Samsung's best smartphone to date, some missteps keep this device from achieving ultimate perfection.

The S6 edge is a real beauty—that I can't deny. The S6 edge looks and feels strong—because of the aluminum alloy edge, and the Gorilla Glass 4-covered front and back—which is so different from the usual plasticky or faux leather design of Samsung phones.

The S6 edge packs one of the most pixel-dense screens on the market today. I confess to having movie and series marathons for days on this device. The AMOLED screen provided vivid colors, deep and sumptuous blacks, and sharp images. The S6 edge also delivered fast, slick, and powerful performance thanks to Samsung chopping out a few unnecessary menus and pairing the Lollipop OS with a flatter and cleaner UI. I did not experience any lags while using demanding apps on the device.

It's such a shame that the S6 edge doesn't come equipped with a microSD card slot. The 32 and 64GB capacity options aren't enough nowadays, especially if you're one to binge on multimedia content.

I gushed and goshed over the S6 edge's rear and front cameras. Long story short: Samsung nailed the cameras on this device. The rear shooter captures colorful, crisp, and detailed images, while the front snapper takes some seriously spacious selfies. Both cameras performed great in low light, too. While the 4K video shooting capability was retained, it maintains the same five-minute limit of recording length, but shoots decently at par with still images taken with the rear camera.

What suffered most from Samsung's design changes is battery life, with the S6 edge sporting a built-in battery. I had to juice up the device two times in a day despite moderate use—more whenever I turned on the mobile data or played videos and games.

SPEED SAYS

The innovative design, powerful performance, fantastic screen, and impressive camera are worth the Samsung GALAXY S6 edge's hefty price tag only if the low battery capacity, small internal storage, and a few other design gaffes are not an issue.

GEEK METER



Samsung's gambit with sporting rounded edges for its flagship paid off. It managed to fit a 5.1-inch display in a form factor no bigger than 4.7 inches, allowing me to get to all areas of the screen with my teeny weeny hands. Samsung however failed to justify its dual edge display beyond maximizing the screen real state and providing a specialized, albeit limited, communication hub.

The buttons on the S6 edge are firm, offering just the right amount of spring. I found the home button, which doubles as a fingerprint scanner to unlock the phone, very convenient. The soft keys, however, were a different issue because they're too easy to press accidentally.

PRODUCT TEST NO.
1666

Dressed to impress

LG G4

Review by KATRINA RIVERE-DIGA

THE NUMBERS

Display

5.5-inch QHD IPS Quantum Display, 538ppi, Corning Gorilla Glass 4

OS

Android 5.1

CPU

1.8GHz hexa-core Qualcomm MSM8992 Snapdragon 808

Memory

32GB internal, microSD up to 128GB, 3GB RAM

Camera

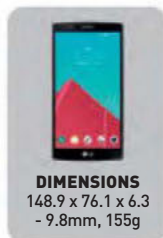
16MP rear with f/1.8 aperture with Camera RAW support, 8MP front

Connectivity

Wi-Fi (802.11n/ac), Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0

Price

P31,990 (metallic finish); P32,990 (leather)



DIMENSIONS
148.9 x 76.1 x 6.3
- 9.8mm, 155g

Last year's LG G3 was an outstanding phone that retained the good features of the G2 and improved on its weaknesses. The new G4 has the same chart-topping potential as its predecessors, thanks largely to its beautiful display and superb camera. But is it just a repackaged G3? LG Philippines sent us a Korean variant in metallic finish for an early hands-on. Here's what we found out:

The G4 retains the 5.5-inch form factor of the G3 but now has a subtly curved back. This design makes the G4 nice to hold because it contours to your palm.

LG's new 16MP camera has a wide f/1.8 aperture and a large 1/2.6-inch image sensor, and comes with a manual mode that allows you to set the ISO (50–2700), shutter speed (1/6000 to 30), white balance (2400K–7400K), and manual focus. Shoot in good light and you'll definitely get fantastic detail. Shoot in low light, and you'll get bright scenes without too much image noise—just make sure to use manual mode and a tripod for best results.

Fancy taking (HD) selfies? The G4's front camera takes superb 8-megapixel photos. There's a beautification level that messes around with your face, so you appear poreless, although I advise against using it. You're better off using a soft selfie light (activated when you select the flash icon while on selfie mode), which brightens the border of the photo preview window to illuminate your face.

The big, beautiful display is incredibly sharp and pumps out vivid colors—great for Web browsing and movie playback.

SPEED SAYS

On paper, LG's new flagship checks off all the right boxes. In real life, it does feel like a slightly tweaked G3, which is not such a bad thing. The G4 is an excellent smartphone with good specs and a bevy of camera controls that will appeal to mobile photographers.

I'm not a fan of the G4's battery power. With moderate use during the day, the G4 was always below 20 percent by 8pm. The Battery Saver feature does limit background services once the battery life reaches 15 percent, so the last remaining juice is stretched.

The matte plastic material of the back panel looks attractive, but the faux metal doesn't feel premium. If you want a more luxurious feel, you can opt for the leather variant. It's real leather, albeit heavily treated and quite thin, so don't expect it to age like your fine leather Hermes or Tumi.

The G4 rocks the Snapdragon 808, so it's predictably not as powerful as the Snapdragon 810. Still, that doesn't mean the overall performance is compromised. If you're not gaming-obsessed, you won't notice the difference between the two chips' performance.

GEEK METER



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1667

Sweet spot

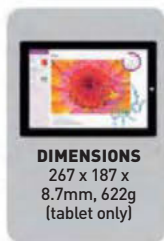
MICROSOFT Surface 3

Review by GADJO CARDENAS SEVILLA

THE NUMBERS

Display10.8-inch
1920 x 1280**OS**

Windows 8.1

CPU1.6GHz quad-core
Intel Atom x7-
Z8700**Memory**2GB RAM with
64GB storage or
4GB RAM with
128GB storage**Connectivity**Wi-Fi 802.11a/b/
g/n/ac, Bluetooth
4.0, USB 3.0,
Mini DisplayPort,
microSD card
reader, microUSB
charging port**Price**\$499 (64GB),
\$599 (128GB)

Third time's the charm for Microsoft's Surface line. With a new Intel Atom processor, the ability to run native PC apps, and an improved design, the Surface 3 may be the sweet spot for consumers looking for the perfect tablet-first 2-in-1 device. The Type Cover and Stylus cost extra, as usual.

The Surface 3 looks like a smaller Surface Pro 3; it is similarly thin and relatively light. The 10-inch size is compact and easy to carry.

Microsoft's VaporMag finish is reasonably durable and scratch-resistant. A limited kickstand offers three positions to prop up the hybrid device. This is easily one of the most well-built devices out there.

The front- and rear-facing cameras are surprisingly good for a hybrid device. Both produce good still and video quality. You'll love using the Surface 3 for Skype, but you'll look pretty dorky when you use it to take pictures in a concert.

The Surface 3 is designed for Windows 10, which will be made available as a free update. This means that the UI and user friendliness should be better than what we've had to endure with Windows 8.1.

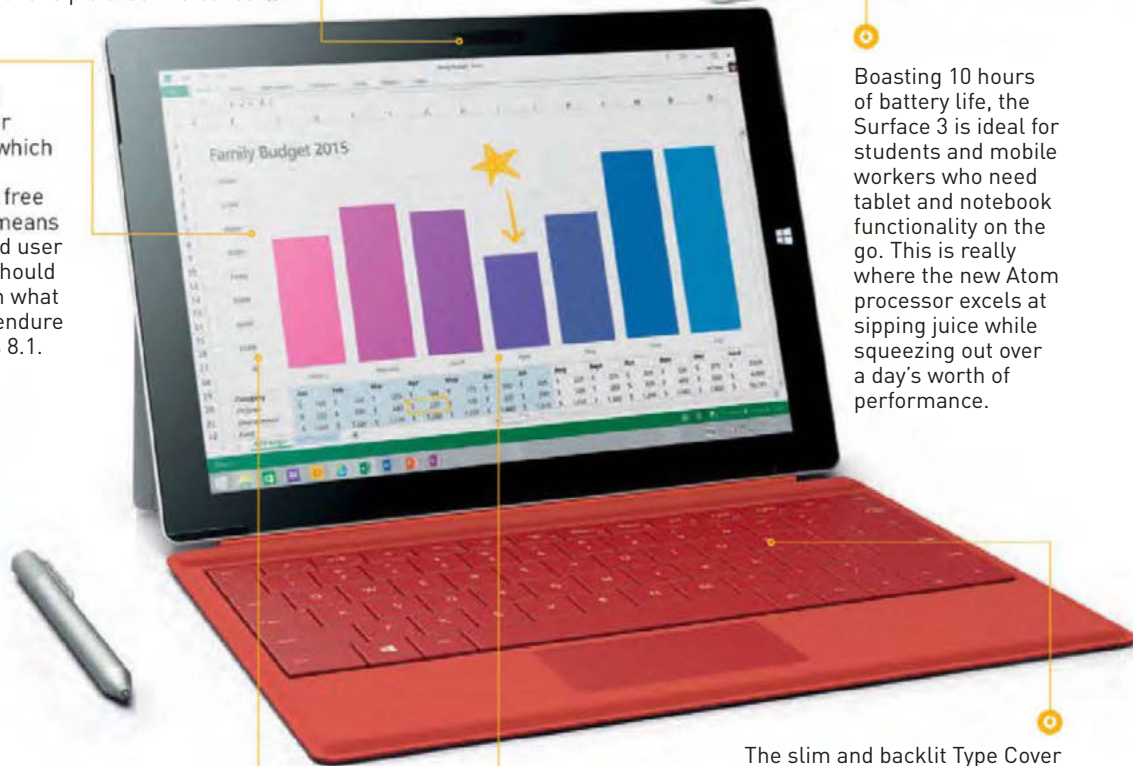
SPEED SAYS

The Surface 3 offers great value and versatility in a smaller and more compact size. However, there are limitations that dampen my enthusiasm. The low available RAM (2 or 4GB) is quite disappointing given that some midrange phones are already offering the same memory. That Microsoft still doesn't include the Type Cover is simply annoying.

GEEK METER



Boasting 10 hours of battery life, the Surface 3 is ideal for students and mobile workers who need tablet and notebook functionality on the go. This is really where the new Atom processor excels at sipping juice while squeezing out over a day's worth of performance.



The multi-touch display is impressive and great for viewing in most conditions.

The fact that you can use a stylus to draw and sketch in great detail makes the Surface 3 a great option for artists or anyone who prefers putting pen to paper.

My experience with the larger Surface Pro 3 is that once I realized I could sign documents and edit with the stylus, I was completely converted.

The slim and backlit Type Cover keyboard has good feedback and feels solid. Despite Microsoft's attempt at "lapability," however, the Type Cover still feels weird when used on a lap. You'd be better off using it on a desk.

The Atom processor is just right for this type of device and does a formidable job running Windows 8 and Office applications. This isn't a gaming-focused device though, and with only 2 or 4GB RAM available, it will feel quite limited if you have a lot of apps and functions running in the background.



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• Swiss Gear • Wrist_Pod



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PRODUCT TEST NO.
1668

THE NUMBERS

Key tech

BioMoGo DNA

Midsole drop

4mm

Surface

Road/track

Weight

8.6oz.

Price

P4,995

Lightweight ride

BROOKS PureFlow 4

Review by ANDY LEUTERIO

Brooks' reputation for comfortable, lightweight running shoes is very evident in the PureFlow 4, a svelte, fetching trainer that weighs just 8.6 ounces.

Despite its light weight, the PureFlow 4 has one of the plushiest rides I've ever experienced yet, and that's courtesy of the famed DNA midsole. This

proprietary technology continually adjusts the cushioning and responsiveness to the runner's needs during workout.

For mellow recovery runs, the PureFlow 4 delivers maximum plush to make you feel almost like you're on a treadmill even if you're actually on pavement. For fast-paced runs, the midsole firms up for added rebound. The transition is very seamless; all you will ever feel is that this trainer always seems to deliver that "just right" balance of cushioning and rebound whatever your pace is.

The upper uses a suede-like material and a padded tongue to really keep your foot snug in there. It's not extremely well-ventilated, so if you frequently run in hot weather, this may be an issue. The outsole uses a rounded heel for better alignment and a smoother stride, with "omega grooves" for stability and flexibility; they act like a car tire's tread blocks, flexing as needed for traction.



SPEED SAYS

The Brooks PureFlow 4 is an ideal shoe for runners who practice a light and quick cadence. At just P4,995, it's also quite friendly to the wallet in this era of pricey running shoes.

GEEK METER

PRODUCT TEST NO.
1669

THE NUMBERS

Frequency

Response

7-24,000Hz

Sensitivity

100dB/1mW

Cord

Flat 1.2m

Price

P1,490

The essence of bass

JVC éсны HA-FX45S

Review by JOHN SOSMEÑA

Making sure that every note counts is a time-old tradition for music junkies—and we never settle for less. Being able to catch that high-quality belt or that warm, low bass voice that anchors a song is what makes music all the more worth listening to. And JVC's éсны collection does the trick.

Looking at the elegant, classy, and bold HA-FX45S, I was honestly quite taken aback by such a lovely exterior that paired well with most of my clothes. The earphones are eye-friendly, meaning they don't project too much attention; people only notice when they see the cords.

Speaking of cords, what's good about them is that they are flat, making them tangle-free; perfect for grab-and-wear styles.

The 8.5mm neodymium driver delivers sound clearly but mildly disappoints in depth and richness. I tested the HA-FX45S with different genres, and crisp sound flowed while playing Ryan O'Shaughnessy's acoustic and mellow "No Name," while the beats and drops were consistent from Kygo's remixes such as "Often" and "Midnight."

This pair's 3.5mm male aux is compatible even with an Apple iPhone, which is needless to say, very selective of its accessories. Having trouble with the fit is also an easy problem to solve with the three different silicone ear pads provided.



SPEED SAYS

Classy, alluring, and equally competitive in quality, the JVC éсны HA-FX45S is a stylish pair of headphones that you can bring anywhere. With its low price, the lack of depth and richness is quite forgivable.

GEEK METER





Eric Shauwn Cray
(gold, 100m &
400m hurdles)



Ernest John Obiena
(silver, pole vault)



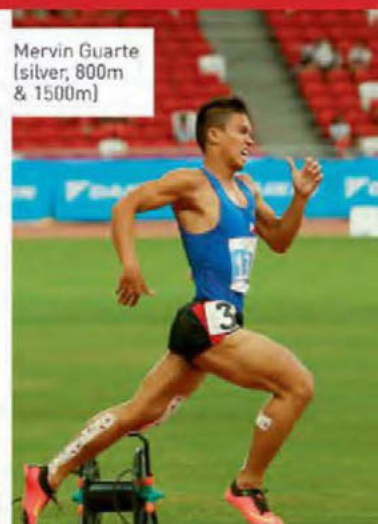
Jesson
Ramil Cid
(silver,
decathlon)



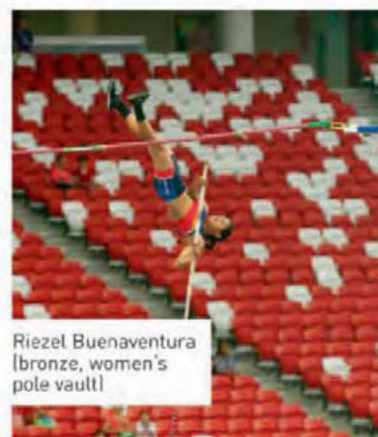
Mary Joy Tabal
(silver, marathon)



Christopher Ulboc, Jr.
(gold, 3000m steeplechase)



Mervin Guarte
(silver, 800m
& 1500m)



Riezel Buenaventura
(bronze, women's
pole vault)

TEAM PILIPINAS ATHLETICS COLLECTS 21 MEDALS IN 2015 SEA GAMES, EYES OLYMPICS NEXT

Photos RAMON TAN MANGILA



Team Pilipinas Athletics

THE PHILIPPINE ATHLETICS TEAM FINISHED THE 28TH SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES WITH A SPECTACULAR PERFORMANCE, BRINGING HOME 21 MEDALS—5 GOLDS, 7 SILVERS, AND 9 BRONZES—A 62 PERCENT IMPROVEMENT FROM THE 2013 SEA GAMES 13-MEDAL HAUL.

To celebrate this victory, Veloci Time and L Timestudio held a victory party for Team Pilipinas Athletics last June 17 at the Marriott Hotel in Pasay.

The gold medalists include Eric Shauwn Cray (100m dash and 400m hurdles), Christopher Ulboc Jr. (300m Steeplechase), Caleb John Christian Stuart (Hammer Throw), and Kayla Anise Richardson (women's 100m dash).

Cray is qualified for the 2016 Olympics in Rio. Possible bets to make the cut before Rio 2016 are young pole vaulter E.J Obiena, who continues to smash the national record on a monthly basis, and two-time Olympian Marestella Torres in long jump.



Kayla Richardson
(gold, women's 100m)



Caleb Stuart, new SEA
Games record holder
(gold, hammer throw)

Archand Christian Bagsit, Ryan Bigyan,
Edgardo Alejan Jr., Joan Caido (silver, 4x400)



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1670

Solid productivity tool

BLACKBERRY Leap

Review by GADJO CARDENAS SEVILLA

THE NUMBERS

Display

5-inch 1280 x 720,
294ppi

OS

BlackBerry OS
10.3.1

CPU

1.5GHz dual-core
Qualcomm MSM
8960

Memory

16GB internal,
microSD up to
128GB, 2GB RAM

Camera

8MP rear,
2MP front

Connectivity

Wi-Fi 802.11b/g/n,
Bluetooth 4.0,
microUSB 2.0

Price

P13,490


DIMENSIONS
144 x 72.8 x
9.5mm, 170 g

The successor to the BlackBerry Z10 updates the everyman's multi-touch BlackBerry with a back-to-basics form factor and understated look and feel. While offering the latest that the company has to offer in terms of software and apps (not much), the 25-hour battery life is the Leap's real key feature, although the two-year-old processor dampens my excitement for the phone's longevity.

The Leap is a monolithic slab of rubberized polycarbonate that's equal parts industrial tool and minimalist chic. The lack of any embellishment can be very Zen, which means it has potential for not looking dated after a few years. There's a very slight whiff of Porsche Design to this handset, especially when viewed from behind.

The build and construction is top-notch and is definitely above average for what is expected of a midrange device.

SPEED SAYS

Designed for entrepreneurs and enterprise users, the BlackBerry Leap squeezes the most out of dated hardware while providing a reliable, rugged, and understated solution for productivity-focused users who aren't hung up on having the latest, greatest apps or camera functionality.

GEEK METER



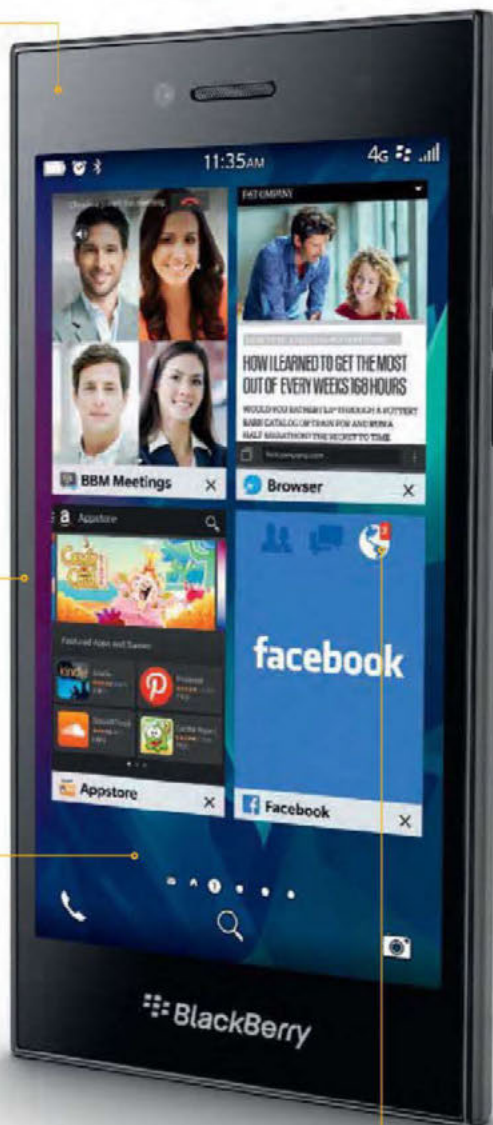
The display's a basic 5-inch job. It's not as good as the AMOLED display from the Z30 but should satisfy the intended user base.

For messaging, mission-critical calendaring, and contact management, you'd be hard pressed to compete with BlackBerry Hub. The touch functionality on the Leap is smooth with few hiccups or slowdowns.

We've seen this humdrum 8MP camera before—two years ago, in fact, on the Z10. That said, camera features are good and overall quality is acceptable for a device that's designed for enterprise users. This camera may not be the fastest, but given good lighting, it takes decent pictures.

The biggest problem I have with the Leap is that its processor is a leap backwards to 2013. The dual-core processor feels like the bare minimum for a device in this range.

The 2800mAh battery is rated to last for well over a day of heavy use and does not disappoint. World travelers and heavy messaging users will love the efficient power management of this smartphone.



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1671

Teach new tricks

HAPPY MOBILE Magic Pro

Review by JOHN SOSMEÑA

THE NUMBERS

Display

5" qHD OGS IPS
Touch

OS

Android 4.4 KitKat

CPU

1.3GHz quad-core
processor

Memory

8GB internal
storage, microSD
up to 32GB, 1GB
RAM

Camera

13MP rear, 5MP
front

Connectivity

Wi-Fi, Bluetooth

Price

P4,499



DIMENSIONS

146.2 x 72.5 x
8.1mm, 147.75g

Holding the Happy Mobile Magic Pro for the first time, I honestly did not know what to expect. With high hopes of challenging some of the big names in the Android mass market, Happy Mobile looks to take the stage with its flagship Magic series.

The phone's specs delivered the expected speed. The Magic Pro took on today's heavy apps and worked well with memory cleaners.

The Magic Pro's display unfortunately had some inconsistencies. Some colors didn't appear as sharp and the resolution looked lower than other devices within its price range.

Both the 5MP front and the 13MP rear cameras need a little work on shutter speed. The phone takes a few seconds to save the photos and to go back to the camera app. Fortunately, third-party camera apps from the Google Play Store such as Zcamera work well with the phone.

SPEED SAYS

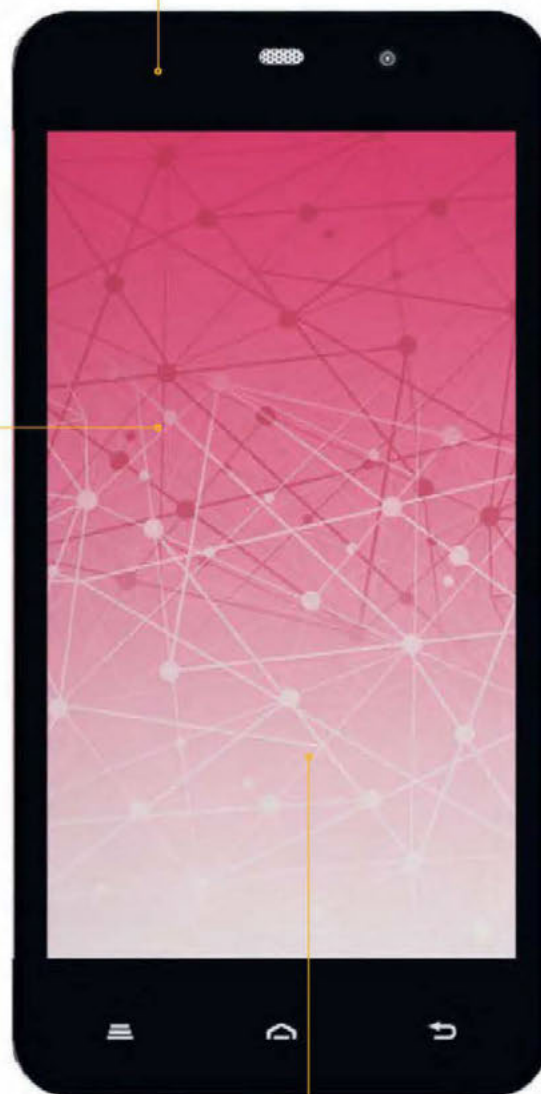
A new, fresh addition to the growing local market, the Happy Mobile Magic Pro could use some work but is definitely moving toward the right direction. With an array of features that make the Android user feel at home, the Magic Pro's not a bad decision when choosing a phone that fits the bill.

GEEK METER



The Magic Pro came installed with the Launcher 3 UI, which could use some work. Since this is an Android device, you can download and install third-party software to replace the default UI (which I did) to make it more appealing.

At 2200mAh, the phone's battery power is not bad and could last you a good day if used sparingly. The Wi-Fi connectivity isn't bad as well, but the built-in browser needs a little work on data transfer (especially when connecting to networks that require sign-ins).



PRODUCT TEST NO.
1672

Solid entertainment

ACER Liquid X1

Review by ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

THE NUMBERS

Display

5.7-inch 720 x 1280 258ppi

OS

Android 4.4.2 KitKat

CPU

1.7GHz octa-core Cortex-A7 processor

Memory

16GB internal storage, microSD up to 32GB, 2GB RAM

Camera

13MP rear, 2MP front; 1080p video

Connectivity

Wi-Fi 802.11 b/g/n, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0

Price

P12,990

Looking to upgrade your entry-level smartphone to a high-performance midrange without sucking your wallet dry? Consider the Acer Liquid X1 for a punch of functionality that goes with a smooth video and gaming playback. This device's form factor makes it a decent carry for all occasions—from formal to casual and downright rugged situations.

If you don't mind carrying a 5.7-inch smartphone, the Liquid X1 could be worth the money you'll put in. I personally did not have issues with its size because the texturized rubber back cover made it feel good to touch and provided a secure grip. The lightweight and sleek body compensates for the large size.

The Liquid X1 is also among the first octa-core-powered smartphones to sport a 4G LTE connectivity. However, the downside to the Liquid X1 is that it can only accommodate a single microSIM in a time when dual SIM capability is becoming a standard.

The Liquid X1's screen is perfect for watching videos on the go. I even used this phone as my double device for entertainment purposes as it provided seamless video playback even for HD films. Despite being pegged at an average HD resolution (258ppi), the device can still deliver crisp image quality.

The removable Li-ion 2700mAh battery gives the Liquid X1 long-lasting power. It isn't the biggest among its peers but enough to last until the end of a long and busy day or if on standby, several days.

In case you find a 5.7-inch screen too large, Acer incorporated the Zoom Fit, which allows you to resize the interface down to 4 inches for single-handed control. It feels a bit weird to have a large phone with a smaller interface, but it can be functional depending on the user.

The Liquid X1's rear camera is fast and allows for manual focus. I took pretty decent shots of objects out in the streets, including fast-moving cars. The f/1.8 aperture puts extra depth to portraits and goes along well with the phone's built-in flash for low-light photography. The front camera remains at a so-so 2MP, but can still show off sharp enough selfies.

SPEED SAYS

The Acer Liquid X1's large screen could be the main deciding factor. But if you're looking for an on-the-go entertainment device and a functional midrange smartphone with a fast camera, great battery life, and powerful specs at a decent price, the Liquid X1 will not disappoint.

GEEK METER



DIMENSIONS
153.3 x 80.4 x 8.5mm, 164g

PRODUCT TEST NO.
1673

Midrange titan

ASUS Zenfone 2

Review by ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

THE NUMBERS

Display

5.5-inch 1080 x 1920 403ppi LCD

OS

Android 5.0
Lollipop

CPU

2.3GHz quad-core
Intel Atom Z3580

Memory

32GB internal
storage, microSD
up to 64GB,
4GB RAM

Camera

13MP rear with
dual-tone LED
flash, 5MP front;
1080p@30fps
video

Connectivity

LTE, Wi-Fi
(802.11a/b/g/n/
ac), NFC,
Bluetooth 4.0,
microUSB 2.0,
USB OTG

Price
P13,995



DIMENSIONS
152.5 x 77.2 x
10.9mm, 170g

Despite carrying a midrange phone's price pot, the ASUS Zenfone 2 thunders into the smartphone arena with powerful features and specs worthy of competing with higher-end devices. Here we put to the test the ZE551ML 32GB variant.

The dual-tone (warm white and cool daylight) LED flash is a plus for this phone, addressing the usual problems of pale-looking portraits. The Zenfone 2 detects whether it needs to give an extra blast of yellow or add white light, giving human photos a more realistic skin tone and pretty accurate white balance.

While the front shooter took good-enough selfies, the rear camera could make you fall in love. When shooting indoors, the Zenfone 2 nicely illuminated dark areas and took vivid portraits. The camera also showed a knack for shooting under low-light conditions. I even tried shooting at nearly total darkness, and yet, the low-light mode feature still gave me rays of hope.

At first glance, the Zenfone 2's body seemed to be made of metal because of its finish but upon closer inspection and when held, the body proved to be coated plastic.

This phone's angst lies in its core power. The clock speed and memory worked its magic, allowing me to easily switch between 10 apps (or more) running simultaneously. The battery has an impressive 3000mAh capacity. But due to the Zenfone 2's processing power, the battery quickly wilted away when running multiple apps.

SPEED SAYS

The ASUS Zenfone 2 may not give you the top-of-the-line elegant exterior but internally, it packs more than what most phones within its price range (and beyond) offers. If you are looking for a *slut* midrange smartphone with all-around capability and high computing power, you won't go wrong with this device.

GEEK METER



The Zenfone 2 sports an atypical arc design. While its center thickness reaches 10.9mm, its edges run down to a slim 3.9mm. Turn this phone upside down and you'll see a mini-plateau-like form factor. It may not be the lightest phone in its line, but its interior power excites.

This phone offers much for a midrange and can certainly get the job done. I experienced no lag playing Full HD videos. During playback, the screen nicely pictured visual depth while Kenshin Himura's ultra-quick slashes in *Rurouni Kenshin* were precisely flashed.

PRODUCT TEST NO.
1674

All cooped up

MINI Cooper S 5-door

● Review by MIKE POTENCIANO

THE NUMBERS

Engine2.0-liter
4-cylinder MINI
Twin Power
Turbo DOHC with
Petrol Direct Fuel
Injection and
Turbocharger
and 6-speed
sports automatic
transmission**Power**192hp @ 4,700-
6,000rpm**Torque**280Nm @ 1,250-
4,750rpm**Suspension**Independent
single-joint
strut front,
independent
multi-link rear**Brakes**Power-assisted
ventilated front
disc, rear disc**Price**

P2,800,000

**DIMENSIONS**1485 x 1727 x
1425mm, 1,240kg

Ever since the third-generation MINI Cooper was launched in November 2013, there has been a clamor for more accessible rear seats and bigger boot space.

MINI finally relented and brought out the new 5-door model that shares the Clubman's stretched platform. Two variants are available here—the Cooper and the more powerful Cooper S, which we tested recently. Does it have the much loved sporty feel even if it has more doors?

Obviously, the 5-door is easily recognizable from the side. The side view is much more conservative than how the Cooper S looks in front. On the other hand, the rear is all MINI. The rear lights' design can use some inspiration, but the saving grace is the rear apron, which integrates the dual exhaust on the center of the car and the two fog lights.

The Cooper S maintains the iconic look of the new-generation MINI Cooper F56, which is a very wise decision because a lot of people love the new look. You will not even recognize that it is a 5-door model when you look it straight from the front.



The best thing about driving the Cooper S on a race track is being able to really test how this MINI responds to driver inputs. This, I believe, is its best attribute: the 5-door handles like a kart! Even though the handling of the Cooper S is more subdued than that of the smaller 3-door, it can still be considered a point-and-squirt car. Greater understeer is thrown in, but you can tune this with better tires and alignment.

My only problem with all these electronic aids in braking and safety is that it lessens the feel of the car and driver's control. This was very evident when I used the handbrake in the slalom course. The Cooper S went into safe mode, which stopped the whole car. Still, the electronic aids are vital for all kinds of drivers to make the car safer on city streets.

SPEED SAYS

The 5-door MINI Cooper S feels friendlier and caters to a bigger family. It might have lost some of the MINI Cooper's sportier nature but has more than compensated with its increased practicality. The best thing about it is it still looks like the iconic MINI.

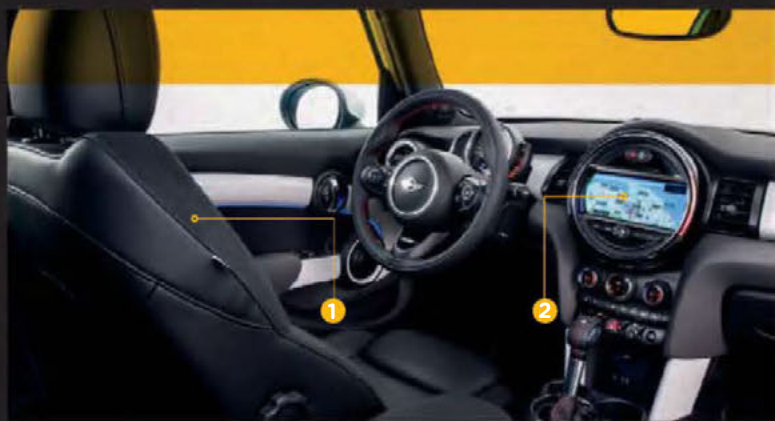
GEEK METER



INTERIOR

1 The front seats have very good side support, and are firm but comfortable enough during hard drives. And because of its larger size, the Cooper S is more practical, with an increase of 30 percent in luggage space and much needed legroom at the back. There is a 60/40 rear seat split to increase the luggage space whenever you need it.

2 The huge round display on the dashboard shows the navigational and entertainment features available. But I miss the tachometer and speedometer gauges. The tachometer is now barely seen through the huge speedometer.



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Becoming Steve Jobs

THE EVOLUTION OF A RECKLESS UPSTART
INTO A VISIONARY LEADER

Review by GADJO CARDENAS SEVILLA

Another year, another hyped Steve Jobs biography. It seems that the late Apple, Pixar, and NeXT visionary is still a rich source of stories to be mined by biographers (and even film studios—the Aaron Sorkin-penned Steve Jobs biopic starring Michael Fassbender is coming out in October).

But what makes Schlender and Tetzeli's Steve Jobs bio a nice counterpoint to Walter Isaacson's Jobs biography and many of the earlier books focusing on Steve Jobs is the fact that Schlender had a long-standing relationship with Jobs and interviewed him for decades. So, aside from gleaning tidbits from hours of interviews and friendly interactions with Jobs, there's some personal connection.

Schlender and Tetzeli also seem to have gotten the blessing of Jobs' inner circle, obtaining interviews with Jobs' widow Laurence Powell Jobs, current Apple CEO Tim Cook, design VP Jony Ive, and even Jobs' frenemies like Bill Gates, John Rubinstein, and Avie Tevanian who worked with Steve Jobs and later on competed with him.

Jobs' journey

At its core, *Becoming Steve Jobs: The Evolution of a Reckless Upstart into a Visionary Leader* is a journey story. It traces the early rise, sudden fall, and incredible resurgence of one of the most important visionaries and business leaders the world has seen.

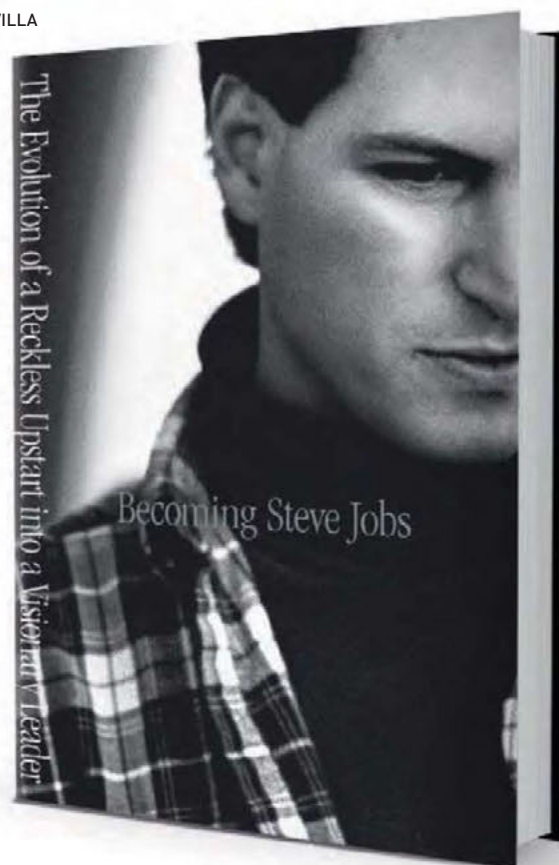
The biography also sets out to humanize Jobs and touch on the softer aspects of his personality. But it doesn't shy away from the bombastic, cruel, and intense character that made Jobs a feared negotiator and a terror of a boss.

Having read every tome on Apple and on Steve Jobs, I did notice a lot of retold stories but was entranced by more insightful looks into Jobs' time at NeXT (his second computer company, which failed), as well as how Pixar was a source of childlike joy for Jobs who knew well enough to be less of a micromanager with the creative geniuses there.

Insights into Apple

There are various insightful accounts of key events in Jobs' life that eventually led to the launching of great products. There's also much discussion of his 'fully formed aesthetic,' and how he would obsess, almost constantly, about how things were designed and how they could be designed better.

There are striking parallels of Apple then and now. Before the iPod was introduced (the product eventually saved the company and created a new awareness for Apple's superior design and software), the company desperately needed a new product category to support Mac sales.



The Apple Watch is in a similar position. While Apple isn't in any danger of disappearing anytime soon (heck, they're still the most valuable company in the world, thanks to Tim Cook's tactical management), they do need another key product category and this time, there's no Steve to help sell the idea. And just like the iPod, the Apple Watch enters a market with already dozens of smartwatches, but none are great.

SPEED SAYS

Is *Becoming Steve Jobs: The Evolution of a Reckless Upstart into a Visionary Leader* worth reading? Absolutely. This book sheds light on how things work in the background: how the Apple products we now enjoy were born, a rare peek into Apple's skunk works, and how various teams are made to work on seemingly unrelated technologies before everything is pulled together into one cohesive product. It is a

brilliant orchestration of secrecy, intrigue, and razor sharp vision that keeps everyone guessing until the big reveal.

GEEK METER



BOOK

Authors

Brent Schlender
and Rick Tetzeli

Publisher

Crown Business

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THAT WILL
CHANGE YOU.

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COMBAT MOBILE GAMES

Review by ERIK PAOLO ESCUETA

MOBILE HAS BECOME A STRONG ARM OF THE GAMING INDUSTRY, ONE THAT WE CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT DISMISS AS LIGHTWEIGHT OR JUVENILE. Recognizing that mobile gaming is worth the serious gamer's attention, *Speed's* resident gamer weighs in on three combat games on iOS and Android that you can try out today. - Ed.



FINAL FANTASY RECORD KEEPER

Platforms: iOS, Android • Price: FREE
Developer: DeNA Corp. • Publisher: Square Enix •
Official Site: finalfantasyrecordkeeper.com

Final Fantasy Record Keeper takes a unique approach to the usual bit-sized gaming formula by capitalizing on its nostalgic fan base, letting gamers relive classic battles from every main franchise entry in pure retro glory. It succeeds admirably in pulling in its dedicated crowd. And although it gets a bit repetitive in later stages, the inclusion of new content keeps it relatively fresh.

HISTORY HERO

The story of *FFRK* follows Tyro, an apprentice historian charged with restoring the historical archives that have been wiped out by an unknown enemy. Obviously the big draw here is that these archives are actually the storylines from main *Final Fantasy* titles, and you can unlock other key battles and dungeons spanning the series' history like the Floating Continent in *FFVI*, the battle with Garland in *FFI*, and even the Hanged Edge from *FFXIII*, just to name a few.

As for party management, you can also unlock iconic *FF* characters such as Kain from *FFIV* and Cyan from *FFVI* to join your five-person party with a variety of hero types. Customization options are also adequately deep, with lots of relics and skills to craft and upgrade.

For the higher-ranked items, daily play is of course encouraged (so are in-app purchases for the impatient), but it's the frequently updated content that'll keep you coming back as well as the limited-time events with rare incentives for your party—like characters Sephiroth from *FFVII* and Terra from *FFVI*.

HIT AND RUN

The core offering of *FFRK* is its use of the series' Active Time Battle (ATB) combat system. Some strategy does take place in coordinating your party's attacks because skills have finite uses. In practice, however, this applies mostly only to boss fights.

Consequently, you'll almost always engage the auto-battle option to preserve your skills usage for the bosses, causing the game to get a bit repetitive particularly on the harder Elite dungeons. On the bright side, the game stamina gets drained every time you play a level, but replenishes at a good rate—enough so you could clear more than a couple of *FF* dungeons in one sitting.

SPEED SAYS

While the overarching storyline of *Final Fantasy Record Keeper* isn't exactly as deep or as enticing as those of its big brothers, the simple action-oriented gameplay and freemium mechanics provide more than enough hooks, even if they do get repetitive in the long run, to keep the typical mobile action junkie satisfied.

GEEK METER





ANGRY BIRDS FIGHT

Platforms: iOS, Android • Price: FREE • Developer: Kiteretsu • Publisher: Rovio • Official Site: fight.angrybirds.com

Breaking away from the usual slingshot style that epitomizes the series, *Angry Birds Fight* takes its merry flock into the world of match-3 puzzlers but with a twist: instead of racking up points for simple scoring, you rack up combos to boost your chosen bird's attack and defense, and take out your opponent one-on-one.

Is it a new concept? Hardly. But *Angry Birds Fight* has more than just that up its wings.

BIRDS OF A FEATHER

The game gently breaks you in as you take on real-world challengers, learning the ropes of matching three birds at a time to build combos. Some additional mechanics (such as matching four of a kind to trigger special abilities and five of a kind to enter Fever mode) create a more chaotic atmosphere than intended.



The visuals are lighthearted to the core even during the post-puzzle combat sequences where the birds start hacking each other; it's a tad ironic but fun to watch.

Speaking of the cast, only Red is available at first, but the rest of the cast is naturally unlocked (or bought with gems, if you prefer to be quick) without much complication.

BALANCED BREAKFAST

Angry Birds Fight pits you not only against other international players but also against computer-controlled pigs in the form of ship and monster battles (the latter serves as a group-battle event). It's a nice break from the player-versus-player (PvP) action, but also rewarding as it can unlock new items and equipment for your birds aside from post-match drops and buying the infamous Eagle a can of tuna with gems.

On that note, the good news regarding in-game currencies is the fact that gems are easily rewarded and easy to collect enough to get that blasted tuna. The bad news is that the stamina replenishment rate for playing matches and ship battles (which are separate, by the way) is long and could lead to extended downtime unless you pony up some more gems.

SPEED Says

Angry Birds Fight is an enjoyable merge of puzzler and fighter, and watching the titular angry birds whack each other with swords and frying pans while wearing fedoras and samurai helmets is just comedic brilliance. It may be a bit stingy with the rewards at times but not so much that it becomes wholly unplayable.

GEEK METER



MARVEL FUTURE FIGHT

Platforms: iOS, Android • Price: FREE • Developer: netmarble monster inc. • Publisher: MARVEL • Official Site: marvelfuturefight.netmarble.com

Marvel Future Fight may not be the comic giant's first action role playing game or first stab at mobile gaming, but it's probably Marvel's best title in both areas to date thanks to some flexible control and game options, multitude of missions, and diverse roster choices. Granted, it's not perfect; the story could've used some more polish and the menus can get rather confusing. But with so much content on offer, these faults are quite easy to overlook.

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

MFF starts off with introducing you to the game's spin on the action-RPG formula, particularly the member-switching mechanics, and in executing combos and skills. One standout combat-related feature is the option to use either of two control schemes: traditional d-pad or taps only. Either way, the combos and special attacks all land quite nicely with impressive impact and solid visual effects, especially if you're rocking the latest hardware. But don't fret if you have an older kit; you can adjust the graphics and performance quality to get the best out of your device.

Once the tutorial's done, the game's story kicks in as you follow Captain America, Iron Man, and Black Widow as they save the world from inevitable destruction—par for the course with any superhero-themed comic. And while the plot is not as bad as you'd think, the dialogue could have used more streamlining, even if it does get the job done somewhat.

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE

Another notable feature is the recruitment system of *MFF*. By collecting biometrics of heroes and villains, you can summon them to join your party. The character variety is also quite diverse and divided into class types (e.g., Daredevil is a speed-class hero, while the Iron man Mark 44 Hulkbuster is all about combat). If there is any one flaw to the game, it would be navigating the menus to manage your heroes. It's not often clear what to tap to get to a particular submenu, for example, but it's not a major drawback considering the amount of help icons on hand.

SPEED Says

Marvel Future Fight hits all the right buttons by giving action gamers loads of bite-sized missions with various difficulties and rewards to immerse themselves in, and lots of options and features to play around with. The amount of content is similar to what you'd find on a portable gaming console, which makes it even more astounding given its free availability, and shouldn't be passed up.

GEEK METER



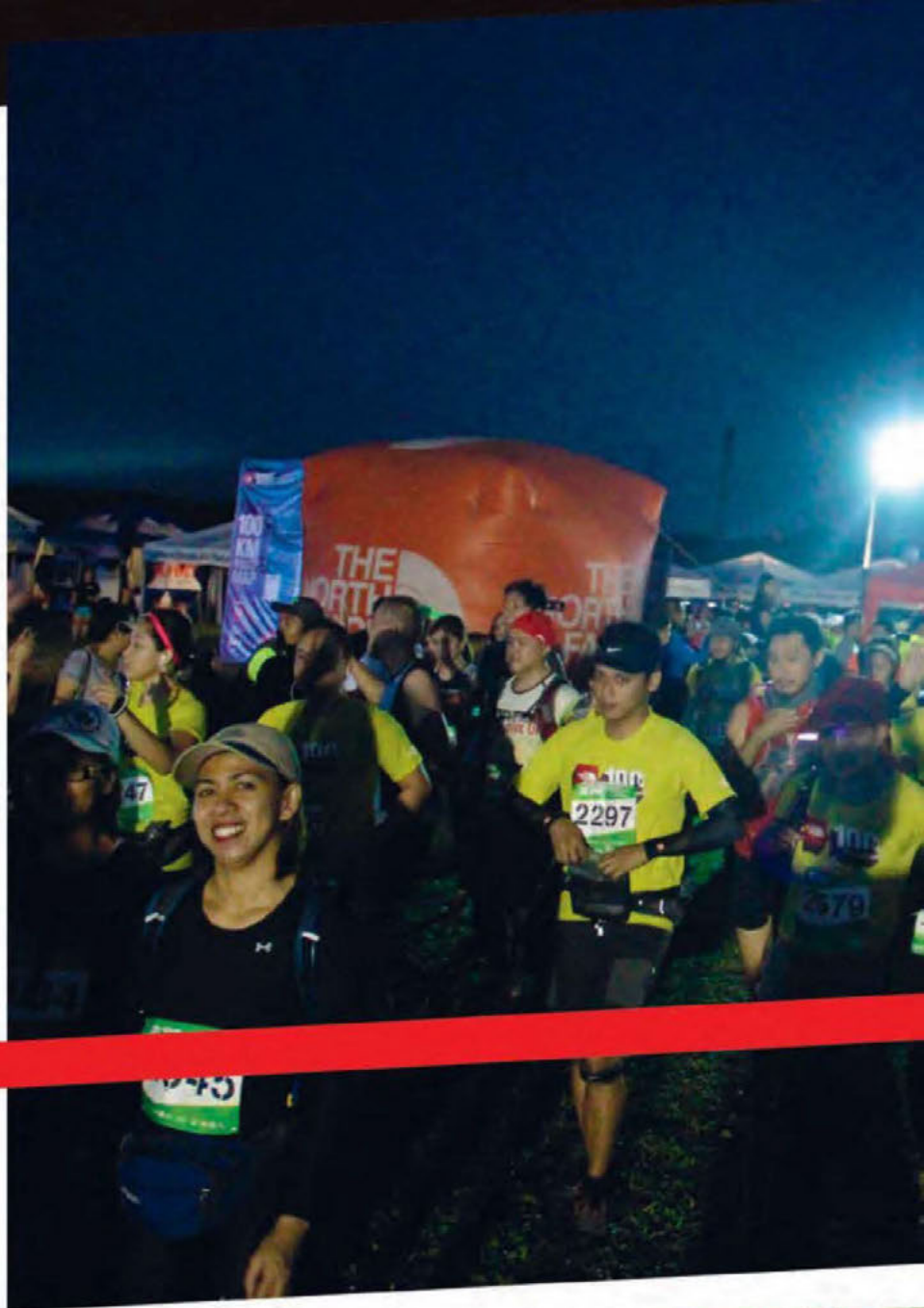
TNF 100 Philippines 2015

BREAK ALL
BOUNDARIES



Runners at the 50k gunstart

**ULTRA-MARATHONERS AND HARDCORE
RUNNING ENTHUSIASTS ONCE AGAIN
GATHERED TO BEST EACH OTHER IN
ONE OF THE BOLDEST TRAIL RUNNING
COMPETITIONS THIS YEAR, THE NORTH
FACE (TNF) 100 PHILIPPINES 2015.**





Ultra-marathoners and hardcore running enthusiasts at the starting line of the TNF 100 2015



Participants braved the challenging trails of the TNF 100 2015



(L-R) Tagaytay Highland's Alfredo Labadan II, TNF's Regional Brand Manager Ken Co, 100k women's category 1st placer Maria Josephine Liao, Primer's AVP for UTCI Dinah Yau Lim



Eugene Pastrado (center, holding the trophy) led the men finishers in the 100k race.



Media partners of the TNF 100 Philippines enjoyed their lunch at Tagaytay Highlands.

Speed witnessed the toughest and the most enduring runners, men and women alike, stand out as they defied their limits during the TNF 100 Philippines 2015 last June 12 to 13. Divided in three categories—100km solo, 50km solo, and 22km solo—for men and women, this year's TNF race covered the challenging terrain of Nuvali-Tagaytay-Batangas.

Day 1 of the event saw the 100k and 50k participants warming up very early to prepare for their respective gun-starts at 4:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. in Nuvali, Laguna. From Nuvali to Batangas and back, this batch of runners traversed the scenic trails of Tagaytay all the way to Talisay. On the second day of the racing event, participants of the 22k category gathered at the starting line in Nuvali, while runners from the 100k and 50k divisions continued their race to the finish line.

Finishers were awarded with medals, while the fastest runners were given medals, trophies, cash prizes, and TNF products during the awarding ceremony.

Jemarvin Cabilan and Maria Victoria Jopson, both from the Philippines, led the top three racers in the men's and women's division of the 22k category. The fastest times in the 50k race were achieved by Pepito Deapera (1st place), Leo Colonia (2nd place), and Angelo Gonzalo (3rd place) for the men, and Janette Agura (1st place), Liza Delfin (2nd place), and Nina Patricia Dacanay (3rd place) for the women.

The 100k category saw seven women finishers, with Maria Josephine Liao emerging on top, followed by Ellen Takling and Yan Xiu Shi in 2nd and 3rd Place, respectively. Eugene Pastrado topped the men finishers in the 100k race, while Manolito Divina came in at 2nd and Bengtay Joel at 3rd.

During the two-day racing event, The North Face took the chance to promote its latest innovative footwear, the Ultra Trail 2 and the Ultra Cardiac. Participants who purchased any of the two shoes got a 50 percent discount on their registration fee.

For five decades, leading outdoor brand The North Face has been providing extensive range of authentic, technically innovative outdoor gear and apparel for active lifestyle enthusiasts. The North Face also ensures that outdoor recreation continues to flourish. The brand innovates itself and supports various communities by sponsoring top athletes and creating groundbreaking events such as the TNF 100.

TNF 100 was inspired by the single stage mountain ultra-marathon in Europe, the Ultra Trail Mont Blanc (UTMB) race, which is similarly sponsored by The North Face. Bringing the same rigorous test of endurance as the UTMB, the TNF 100 has held races over the years in challenging and diverse terrains in Pampanga, Batangas, Camarines Sur, and Baguio. From the first-ever Philippine leg of the TNF 100 back in 2008, the race has since been one of the most highly anticipated trail running events with the number of participants increasing from a hundred to nearly 2,000.

The 2015 Philippine leg of the TNF 100 is made possible in partnership with NUALI, SEDA Hotel Nuvali, AXN, Gatorade, Summit, the Primer Group of Companies, R.O.X., Tagaytay Highlands, Department of Tourism, and the local governments of Laguna, Cavite, and Batangas. Speed is one of the proud media partners of The North Face 100 Philippines 2015.



BACK TO BACK NEW SEASON PREMIERE

NCIS: LOS ANGELES SEASON 6

**PREMIERES ON JULY 2
THURSDAYS AT 9.45PM**



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**PREMIERES ON JULY 2
THURSDAYS AT 10.40PM**

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BLUE BLOODS SEASON 5

SKYCable CH 49 | Signal Digital TV CH 61 | Cable Link CH 38
Destiny Cable CH 61 | Dream CH 20



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Hotspot

FORM
FACTOR

JOURNEY of SOUND

*Follow the Sony Walkman, the penultimate music player,
down memory lane*

Words **RON CRUZ**

**BEFORE THE IPOD AND MP3s
CHANGED THE LANDSCAPE OF
PORTABLE MUSIC FOREVER,**

Sony's Walkman was the epitome of cool. You would have never guessed that strapping a big unwieldy box to your waist could get all the ladies to take second glances, but the Walkman was that revolutionary. It was the first of its kind and broke boundaries, paving the way for the technology we've come to know and love today. Celebrating its 36th year on retail, we've outlined below some of the Walkman line's greatest hits.

Sony Walkman TPS-L2

The Sony Walkman TPS-L2 is the granddaddy—the one that started it all. It was the first truly portable cassette player. Its design, where only a ruler was used, is simple and elegant. The controls on the side are minimal and are all essential; nothing is out of place. This MP3 player may be massive by today's standards, but its aluminum body made the Walkman look sleek and streamlined. This two-toned beauty was a stroke of genius on Sony's part and launched a whole new world.



Sony TCD-D3 DAT Walkman

The TCD-D3 was Sony's first portable DAT (Digital Audio Tape) recorder. It was incredibly compact and extremely light, fitting in the palm of the hand. While it may have been diminutive in size, it still packed all the tape recording punch that Sony was known for, offering playback and recording options at three different sampling rates. The TCD-D3 DAT Walkman had a matte black finish and an ahead-of-its-time backlit LCD panel, which gave off an unmistakable green glow.

Sony Walkman Sports WM-B52

The Sony Walkman Sports WM-B52 was one of the more recognizable iterations of the Walkman, owing to its screaming yellow hue. More affectionately known as the Yellow Monster Walkman, the B52 catered to leisurely use on the beach or in the pool; it was waterproof and had a built-in solar alarm clock, presumably to tell you when to stop tanning. The player and the watch didn't interact in any way, however, so you would've been hard pressed to hear it go off when listening to your tunes.



Sony Portable CD Walkman

Marking the arrival of CDs was the release of Sony's D-20, which was aptly dubbed 'Discman.' The machine was extremely well-built and had a lot of internal parts made of metal. Staying true to their roots, Sony didn't put too many bells and whistles on the first Discman, sticking to minimal but essential controls. The D-20 was also one of the first CD players to run on normal batteries, making the machine more convenient and less expensive than those with proprietary battery packs.



Sony MZ-1

Another Sony first was the MZ-1. Always trying to innovate, Sony launched its ambitious albeit maligned MiniDisc project, giving birth to the MZ-1. It featured a 10-second shock-resistant memory and a 10-key direct track access. The MZ-1 had shuffle, repeat, program play modes, bass boost, as well as a small backlit LCD that showed the disc and track names. The MiniDiscs were housed in a small cartridge and were loaded into the MZ-1 through a slot mechanism.





Sony Walkman NW-E505

Sony's NW-E505 was a testament to elegant design. Said to be inspired from a bottle of perfume, this version of the Walkman was no bigger than a pack of gum and came in a variety of metallic colors. Under the hood, the NW-E505 packed a whopping 512MB of memory for your MP3s as well as an integrated FM tuner. One of its best features, aside from the stunning and eye-catching looks, is the long 50-hour battery life.



Sony Network Walkman NW-MS70D

Once MP3s rose to prominence, it was a whole new ballgame for Sony. The Network Walkman was one of Sony's first forays into the MP3 arena. The amazingly small and exquisitely sleek audio player had a titanium silver finish and sported an internal storage of 256MB with a slot for memory expansion. The long bar across the player acted as the lock for controls, and a shuffle switch on the right side gave the option to move between groups of songs.



Sony Ericsson Walkman W200

The W200 was the first phone from Sony Ericsson to come out with the Walkman designation. It had all the usual features you'd expect from a phone of its time, but it had an added emphasis to music quality. The dedicated Walkman key provided quick and easy access to your uploaded music. Out of the box, the W200 stored up to 37 full tracks or four full albums and sustained 18 hours of music playback.



Sony Walkman NWD-W273

Marketed toward sports enthusiasts, Sony's Walkman NWD-W273 was a pair of minimalist headphones that epitomized music on the go. It was waterproof for up to two meters and in fact, was sold in some markets inside a water bottle just to highlight this feature. The W273 was really light and comfortable, and perfect if you didn't want any wires getting in the way of your workout.



Sony Walkman NW-ZX2

The Walkman sure has come a long way. Its latest iteration caters to high-end audiophiles and screams luxury. The NW-ZX2 has a strong aluminum frame bathed in black and boasts a gold-plated copper chassis to help deliver powerful sound. The NW-ZX2 feels solid, but its rubber-covered contoured back gives you peace of mind that it won't slip from your fingertips. The controls are carved into its side, making playback intuitive. As the proverbial icing on the cake, the headphone jack is gold-plated as well.

NDAA2015

NATIONAL DIGITAL ARTS AWARDS 2015

#DIGITALPINOYAKO

DEADLINE OF SUBMISSION IS ON OCTOBER 16, 2015

I. Eligibility:

The NDAA2015 will be open to Students in the Philippines ONLY.
(To view Full Mechanics visit: www.ndaa.globaltronics.net)

II. Awards Categories:

Motion Graphics/Animated Video

- I. Resolution: 1280 x 720
- II. File Output: h.264 (mp4)
- III. No templates allowed
- IV. All materials must be original (e.g. Images or videos used)
- V. Audio is required and must be original
- VI. Length of video must be atleast 60 to maximum of 90 seconds.

Print

- I. Resolution: 300 dpi
- II. File Output: JPEG (.jpg)
- III. Size: A3
- IV. All materials must be original (e.g. Images or Photographs used)

III. The participants will create work based on the following theme.

#DIGITALPINOYAKO

This year, NDAA aims to highlight works from the Filipino youth – their interpretation of the Philippines as a country that continues to rise with the help of digital technology. All participants should create works that show the integration of technology and rich visual media as integral to nation-building, instilling nationalism in every Filipino, and how moving forward, our young people can influence culture using positive values towards affirmative change.

A total of Php 1,000,000 cash and prizes to be won.

To view the full mechanics please visit our website:
www.ndaa.globaltronics.net



EARGASM

A concerted breakdown of the war and harmony between two sound revolutions: vinyl and HRA

Words **TATS PAMAN**

We wake up welcomed by the blinking wink of a smartphone. Flooded by data, we're constantly pulled by shared pictures and composed status updates. Some of us choose to indulge right away and jump at the glaring screen at first blink; others hold on to waking rituals undefined by the digital instant.

PHOTO FROM 123RF.COM

POLAR OPPOSITES

Two forces pull on us daily: the allure of the bells and whistles of our all-powerful smartphone or the urge to slow down and take stock of our life? Should we jot down our thoughts in a notebook or tap on a text app on our smartphone? Do we choose a modern copy of an old process and follow the digital revolution's irreverent pace and fixation with the new, or do we cherish nostalgia and find a way for the momentum of the future to accommodate the past?

Even listening intently to music, a supposedly calming ritual, is being pushed in a format tug of war between embracing a future of binary 1s and 0s and embracing a warm nostalgic past.

ANALOG ROMANCE

For anybody who still assigns immense value in listening to music and finds that an anemic low bitrate MP3 file played through a tinny earphone is an act of disrespect for a cherished song, the landscape seems to be divided into: those embracing the onslaught of digital, with high-resolution audio being touted as the next big must-have format; and those battling out digital's breakneck momentum by going back to analog playback and vinyl records (which is akin to living out a romantic resistance by embracing a format steeped in nostalgia) with a subjective preference for the warmth and the engrossing allure of vinyl records.

PHOTO FROM 123RF.COM

Vinyl records, partly because of their throwback appeal, are experiencing an unlikely but welcome revival, providing a shining glimmer of hope to a record industry embattled by digital pirates and the slow demise of its ultimate cash cow, the compact disc.

Vinyl is undergoing a rebirth at the oddest moment in history. Every aspect of our lives today is being swallowed by the internet and increasingly, all our media is racing to reside on an intangible cloud. Yet here comes a mechanical format, notoriously inconvenient with clicks and pops that require patience to set up properly and to operate—not to mention that the format is more than a century old.

In spite of these drawbacks, analog audio is experiencing a revival, with young audiences discovering its potential to give an involved and immersive musical experience.

Old timers are also re-buying their records in a sudden bout of romance with the forgotten warmth of a vinyl record and the symbolic re-purchasing of memories of a simpler time when music was sacred and not an orgy of gigabytes that can oftentimes confuse you more than it can uplift you.

Vinyl is music you can cradle, display, and physically own. Its sound is distinct, with a fuzzy warmth and an immediate musicality that begs to be heard.



DIGITAL STRENGTH

On the other hand, you have high-resolution audio or HRA, a seemingly superior digital mirror image of music that a lot of manufacturers are betting on to peddle a new wave of hardware that can allegedly rival the fidelity of CDs, LPs, and other music formats downgraded to history's trash bin. Sony and a group of music labels even came out with a formal definition of HighRes Audio – any audio file with a higher resolution than two-channel 44.1kHz/16-bit CD audio. The audio sampling rate could be 48kHz/16-bit or 192kHz/24-bit.

Hardware manufacturers and record labels are quickly capitalizing on these two trends in audio and have released products, records, and accessories in a last ditch effort to prop up high-fidelity sound against the simple tyranny and convenience of an earbud and a smartphone to play music. Record labels are in a mad rush to roll out remasters of your favorite records in both formats to squeeze out the new niches that HRA and vinyl are carving up. Boomers, Gen-Xers, and millennials are being encouraged to purchase and re-purchase their music library in these formats to administer financial CPR to the ailing record industry.

PLAYBACK WARS

Music is simply organized sound (volume plus frequency or tone) moving across time, and the main contrast between the two formats is how they store and reproduce recorded music. If we take a quick, oversimplified look at each format, we can appreciate their differences even more.

VINYL DECONSTRUCTED

If you zoom into a vinyl record, a smooth flowing waveform of music is etched into a groove in the LP. These are microscopic bumps running along the ridges of the opposite sides of the groove. One side of the groove represents information for your left channel speaker and the other for your right.

A stylus (that needle-like device at the end of a turntable tonearm) drags through the bumps and ridges of your LP's groove via the spinning action of your turntable. This stylus is mounted on a suspended cartridge containing a crystal or magnet.

The microscopic vibrations resulting from the stylus moving across these ridges generate an electrical signal that courses through your cartridge's crystal or magnet and is then sent to an amplifier. This electrical energy is amplified and then sent to your speakers or headphones, which in turn deliver sonic bliss to your ears.

Audiophiles obsess about each part of this chain in analog sound reproduction and the demands of perfection can sink a small nation's economy just by ensuring that each part in the chain of sound can perform at their best.

BITS AND SAMPLES

Whereas analog sound is simple, straightforward audio information reproduced and stored by physical means, at the heart of high-resolution audio is the playback and storage of music in the digital realm. Musical information is encoded not by physical means (like etches in a vinyl groove), but by assigning numerical values to each detail of musical nuance.





If you go back to that smooth-flowing waveform of music, cut up this wave into chunks, and have a binary number assigned as a “description” of that musical chunk, you get a “sample” of a musical event. This brings us to the sample rate of a digital music file represented in kilohertz (KHz). The higher the sample rate, the more “descriptions” of a musical event can be present in your file. In order for a digital file to be considered high-res, it must have a sample rate above the CD’s 44.1KHz; HRA usually hovers near the 96KHz point.

Next up is the bit depth of your digital file—how many bits a file can have to “describe” the softest and loudest parts of a musical event. The higher the number of computer bits you have, the higher the range of volume between the loud and soft parts of music (dynamic range) your file has. High-res files can have 16 to 24 bits (or higher) while the usual CD has a bit depth limit of only 16 bits.

The last aspect of digital audio is bit rate, which is used to describe the total amount of data used every second to approximate sound. The higher the bit rate, the higher the amounts of data that can be processed resulting in a bigger file size—and supposedly, a better sounding file.

The lowly compressed MP3 (and other lossy compression formats like OGG that is used by Spotify), which was adopted due to limited hard disk space in the early 2000s, boasts a puny high of 320kbps compared with a CD’s 1,411.2Kbps. But against high-res audio that can easily go up to 9,216Kbps, the other formats seem downright impoverished in terms of bit rate.

To be able to hear your digital file, you’d need a digital-to-analog converter (DAC) to interpret the digital data and convert these pulses of data into an analog electrical signal. This signal can then be fed to your speakers and/or headphones for you to hear the extended range of sound offered by digital HRA.

HRA also has a number of lossless formats to offer, from the open source FLAC to the Windows-based WAV (which can now also be played on an Apple-based platform), AIFF (the Mac-based counterpart of WAV), and Apple Lossless.



PICK A SIDE

Opinions will be used as bullets, and scientific jargon will be spread out like a biochemical weapon as analog purists and HRA enthusiasts slug it out in the wonderful and subjective landmine of opinion called the internet. Trolls will continue to call out vinyl records for their inherent noise, and comment commandos will continue to deride HRA as cold and lifeless sounding.

Each side will tout their chosen format as the most life-changing, most eargasm-inducing, and the best-sounding playback method known to mankind—short of uttering that grand tech cliché that their format can “make the world a better place.”

WHY YOU LOVE VINYL

Analog enthusiasts describe listening to vinyl as a singular listening experience—organic and fatigue-free. Extreme bass and highs are slightly rolled off, resulting in listening sessions that can last longer without any strain.

Our ears have evolved over time to be finely tuned to the midrange frequencies of sound (like the human voice and other horned instruments). That’s why we can immediately react to someone talking or a branch snapping signifying danger or an approaching animal.

Since analog playback boasts an impressive midrange-heavy sound at the expense of high and low frequency extension, vinyl playback can give a natural realism to music that begs for your attention, and this can make listening a very pleasurable experience.

BUMPY ANALOG RIDE

Despite these advantages, vinyl playback is very far from perfect. New enthusiasts of the format have to relearn a lot about the proper setup of a turntable, its adjoining parts, and the electronic components needed in order to have

a decent listening experience—not to mention the obsessive cleanliness needed to preserve your stylus and your LPs to sound halfway decent. Scrimp on cleanliness, and you end up suffering through noise, clicks, and pops on your music.

A nosebleed is in proper order if you try to get a millennial to memorize at least a dozen tuning points in order for vinyl playback to at least get to the level that will compete with an HRA setup. Technical words such as Vertical Tracking Angle, Stylus Force Gauge, and Azimuth Adjustment are essential to squeeze out the performance of an analog rig. And that’s just the turntable.

On the equipment end, you have the phonograph pre-amplifier, another box that comes between the speakers, amplifiers, and the turntable. A phono pre-amplifier adds volume to an otherwise microscopic vibration that your stylus picks up on grooves similar in size to airborne bacteria.

Your vinyl records will also degrade after every playback. Wear and tear is inevitable, as each playback is essentially a needle scratching the surface of a delicate set of grooves.

In spite of these analog caveats, manufacturers have put in a lot of effort to cope up with the new wave of vinyl revivalists. Brands such as Rega, Pro-ject, and Audio-Technica are reissuing decent entry-level turntables that can be an introduction to the sweet sound of vinyl. Decent phono preamplifiers from the likes of NAD and Musical Fidelity can also be purchased to feed your headphone setup and stereo system the best that analog has to offer.



EASY-GOING HRA

Conversely, high-res audio offers more convenient playback than vinyl records. Let us explain. First off, you just have a digital file with the HRA specs, which you can purchase via several HRA download sites, including HDtracks and QoBuz. If you have a stable internet connection, you can also stream HRA tracks from a streaming service such as Tidal, which offers HRA.

An HRA file is theoretically indestructible, as it exists merely as a collection of data squeezed into a file format that can reside in every storage device. Major manufacturers have released hardware that can handle HRA files for eventual playback through your headphones or stereo system. The choices range from recent portable all-in-one devices such as the FIIO X5, to the more upscale Astell & Kern HRA players.

If you intend to use your computer-bound device, excellent outboard DACs out there can deliver your HRA fix. Options range from the excellent value Light Harmonic Geek Out and the Audioquest Dragonfly to more substantial products from Schiit Audio.

THE WHOLE SHEBANG

HRA offers a clean, almost clinical-sounding presentation to music that delivers an extended range of frequencies to counter vinyl's warmth. Modern music tracks with subsonic bass can exploit HRA's extensive sound to provide that rumbling oomph needed in modern electronic music, as well as hip-hop and R&B's penchant to slather their tracks with bass.

High-frequency sounds such as cymbals can have an airy fizz that lends an illusion of added space to your listening experience. With the absence of any erratic pops and noise, HRA allows you to indulge in music with a clear and artifact-free presentation.

Since we're dealing with pure data, doing away with optical discs due to advancements in storage capacity, HRA formats can last decades in terms of playability as opposed to analog playback's constant wear on your vinyl records.

TANGIBLE MUSIC

Although HRA can chalk up its format's invisible footprint as an advantage, the recent vinyl revival seems to be fueled by a direct opposite reaction to music floating in a cloud of data. A major factor in the purchase of a vinyl record is the fact that vinyl is a visceral medium. You can hold music, admire an album cover without squinting, and indulge in the liner notes of a 12 x 12-inch miniature work of art.

For a generation weaned on ghost-like MP3 files, the visual appeal of a vinyl record is irresistible to the software-weary millennial (it even looks like an Instagram snapshot). If the record was a hand-me-down copy from a parent or a thrift shop find, it becomes an heirloom, a musical inheritance.

THE SECRET CHORD

We're missing the last half of the equation on why either format can outperform each other, and that half is your playback system—your stereo amplifier and your speakers or headphones. But that is another topic filled with another buffet of differing opinions, not to mention another endeavor that can punch a crater-hole in your bank account.

This leaves us now with just one question: who wins?

Both.

A MUSIC LOVER'S CHOICE

Vinyl isn't better. It just sounds different from HRA and vice versa.

If you're looking for a technically superior and convenient medium that ticks all the performance boxes on paper, then HRA has all the cards in this game. But rarely do numbers determine the end all and be all when it comes down to an individual's subjective preference on music playback.

Some people love the extension of musical detail provided by HRA, while others have fallen in love with the syrupy warmth that a well thought of analog setup can produce. Add to that the allure of fondling album art while listening.

That's where we are right now and a reflection of the times we're living in. We have all the information, all the choices, all at once. It's a dilemma and a privilege rolled into one: the convenience of a universe of data at your fingertips and access to better technology to revive any old medium should we wish it.

Both formats just sound different from one another, but both can deliver an added dimension—in their own way—for you to be touched by your music, for a symphony of notes to speak for what's inside you.

The best recourse for such polar opposites is to be format agnostic. Indulge in both mediums. Embrace them both if you truly feel that music is essential.

Why choose a single format when we're living in a time with an explosion of compelling products that can bring you to musical nirvana either through a single tap on a screen or a needle dropping on a groove?



Ant-Man

Words **CARMELA MARAAN FERNANDO**

OPENS July 16

Can

a criminal use his lawlessness to become a hero? This is what petty crook and con man Scott Lang is faced with when he tries to redeem himself by helping his mentor Dr. Hank Pym perform a heist to help save humanity.

The catch? Scott has to wear a suit that allows him to shrink to the size of an ant, which gives him

superhuman strength. I know, I know—if you're bothered by the 'smaller guy' stigma, then this movie will make you feel better about greater things coming in smaller packages.

Starring Paul Rudd as Lang and directed by Peyton Reed, *Ant-Man* is the 12th movie installment of the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU). Its screenplay was written by Edgar Wright, Joe Cornish, Adam McKay, and Paul Rudd, and was in development from 2011 to 2014.

Ant-Man centers on the story of Lang, who steals the Ant-Man suit from scientist and tech genius Hank Pym in an attempt to help his daughter Cassie recover from her heart condition. Pym grants Scott another lease on reformation by taking him on as his protégé.

Unlike your typical zero-to-hero trope, the film centers on a no-gooder hoping to straighten out his life—doing the right thing by doing what's wrong. This aspect brings up the ethics of the end justifying the means when one is caught in a moral and survival crisis.

Conversely, the story's antagonist, Darren Cross/Yellowjacket (Corey Stoll), veers away from the cut-and-dried supervillain who wishes to take over the world. Just like his former mentor Hank Pym, Cross is a brilliant scientist who has the potential to improve humanity's way of life by developing

cutting-edge technology—only, he uses his abilities toward more selfish goals.

This parallelism between protagonist and antagonist illustrates how a person's expertise becomes a great source of personal empowerment. The question now lies how that person will apply their power.

Another related tangent to this is Pym's daughter Hope Van Dyne (Evangeline Lilly), who depicts the darker side of growing up in a family of heroes.

"I was raised by two superheroes. So, I'm a pretty screwed up human being," Lilly says of her role. "I am also fairly capable, strong, and kick-ass, which is wonderful to play. But the most fun to play was just how messed up she was from being raised by two superheroes. And the clear message sent by my name is that I'm not a big fan of my father, and so I took my mother's name."

All in all, *Ant-Man* seeks to explore a more complex character structure away from the standard good-vs-evil dichotomy found in typical superhero stories, a testament to the notions that heroism and villainy are hugely dictated by one's choices, that the ability to do good and evil is constantly fluid in the same individual, and that heroes are made, not born.

Ant-Man also stars Hayley Atwell, Judy Greer, Michael Douglas, and John Slattery.



BUZZ FEED

Are you a Paul Rudd fan? Good news: he will be back as Ant-Man in the upcoming *Captain America* film.



TERMINATOR GENISYS

OPENS July 1

Yes, he's back. A rather grizzled Arnold Schwarzenegger reprises his iconic role as the Terminator in the fifth installment and reboot of the *Terminator* movie saga.

It is 2029, and John Connor (Jason Clarke) leads the human revolt against the machines that threaten to overpower humanity. With his future endangered by the technological giant Skynet, he sends his right-hand man Kyle Reese (Jai Courtney) back to the past to save his mother Sarah Connor (Emilia Clarke of *Game of Thrones*) from imminent death and ensure his survival in the process.

Reese, however, discovers that the past has been drastically altered, and now he, along with Sarah and the old Terminator, are being hunted down by a triple threat: the T-800, the T-1000, and John Connor himself, who has been turned by Skynet into the nanotechnological human-cyborg hybrid T-3000. Together they have to make sure that these machines don't destroy human civilization, or else the future John's cause is doomed.

Terminator Genisys revives the *Terminator* arc with an alternate story timeline. It may come off as cashing in on the current popularity of some cast members (Clarke and Matt Smith of *Doctor Who*), but the series is well worth reintroducing to younger audiences who haven't experienced the first movies.

The film also stars J.K. Simmons, Sandrine Holt, and the impeccably ripped Byung-Hun Lee who would surely make the perfect T-1000.



Words CARMELA MARIAN FERNANDO



MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE

Rogue Nation

OPENS July 29

Mission: Impossible -

Rogue Nation is the fifth installment of the *Mission: Impossible* film series. In it, protagonist Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) faces a double threat that's hell-bent on destroying the IMF team once and for all.

This time, Hunt becomes the hunted when a high-profile bureaucrat played by Alec Baldwin schemes to dissolve the IMF team permanently for political reasons. While trying to keep his men together, Hunt is also tasked to thwart and expose the Syndicate, an underground organization of highly skilled rogue assassins from all over the world.

This, of course, is supposedly the team's most dangerous mission to date—until the next installment comes along, that is.

Based on the official trailer alone, *Rogue Nation* appears to be a promising spy thriller in terms of hard-hitting action, glitzy locations, and imaginative tech. Despite the obvious plot formulas often used in movie series, the movie still gives a good adrenaline rush that renders it worth watching.

Expect to see Simon Pegg, Ving Rhames, and Jeremy Renner in returning roles. They are joined by newcomer Rebecca Ferguson, as well as Sean Harris, who plays the Syndicate's mysterious leader. What you shouldn't expect is for this installment to be the last in the *Mission: Impossible* movie lineup.



Newcomer Rebecca Ferguson joins the cast of *Rogue Nation*



TED 2

OPENS July 16

Everyone's

favorite foul-mouthed bear is back! And he is no less naughty.

Co-written, directed, and starring Seth MacFarlane, *Ted 2* is the sequel to the top-grossing R-rated comedy that follows the stoner life and silly misadventures of John (Mark Wahlberg) and his bong-smoking teddy bear, Ted (voiced by MacFarlane).

Ted 2 sees Ted and new wife, Tami-Lynn (Jessica Barth), wanting to start a family. But there's the minor wrinkle of Ted being a stuffed toy and lacking the ability to reproduce. This leads the couple to seek a sperm donor, bringing even bigger problems when the state comes in and questions

whether or not Ted has the right to raise a child. The thunder buddies' hilarious pursuit to have Ted recognized as a legal person ensues.

This gleefully wrong film promises to drop a lot of F-bombs, pot and drug jokes, ridiculous scenes, and just the right bit of plot, if we go by the two red band trailers released.

Patrick Stewart returns for narrator duty as Amanda Seyfried, Morgan Freeman, Liam Neeson, Patrick Warburton, Sam J. Jones, and Tom Brady join the cast.



Minions

OPENS July 8

You loved them in the *Despicable Me* series. Now, the Minions are back on the big screen—this time going solo in a prequel.

Minions traces back the origins of the Minions before they met Super Villain Gru and his kids. Apparently, these banana-loving single-cell creatures

are part of an ancient species that roamed this planet since the dawn of time, looking for the one true evil master they could serve. But their self-sabotaging services have led all their despicable masters—a T-Rex, Genghis Khan, Napoleon, and Dracula—to their untimely downfall.

Eventually, the Minions find themselves into a deep depression without having someone to serve, so three rogue Minions—Kevin, Bob, and Stuart—embark on a journey to Orlando to attend an international Villain-Con. There they meet the world's first-ever female supervillain and their potential new mistress, Scarlet Overkill (voiced by Sandra Bullock). What follows is a series of poorly executed illegalities and incomprehensible lines, courtesy mostly by the loveable yellow lackeys.

Directed by Pierre Coffin and Kyle Balda, *Minions* also stars the voices of Michael Keaton, Steve Coogan, Jon Hamm, Hiroyuki Sanada, and Jennifer Sanders.

My favorite RACING MOVIES

Celebrating this month's Audio-Video issue, I would like to share six of my favorite films about racing. These are not ranked. Some of these movies are quite old while others never made it to our shores. See if you would remember them.

1 **LE MANS**

This is one of the most revered racing films about the legendary Le Mans track in France. Starring actor turned race driver Steve McQueen, this movie set in the '70s shows the life of a professional racing driver facing the dangers of the sport.

The film has very minimal talking points and is filled with action right from the start. What makes it very memorable is the use of available Le Mans-winning cars. Even real-life race car drivers have cameo roles, adding realism to the movie, especially its racing scenes.

2 **RUSH**

The real-life battle between Formula 1 rivals James Hunt and Nikki Lauda is captured in this 2013 film directed by Ron Howard. *Rush* is hailed as the best F1 movie ever by a lot of people, and was nominated for several awards, winning some of them. Actors Chris Hemsworth and Daniel Brühl played their respective roles brilliantly.

Even though the film uses computer-generated images heavily, it also shows the actual F1 cars that ran during the two



drivers' bitter showdown for the title. The old F1 race tracks also make an appearance. The movie reveals a lot of inside stories as well.

3 **SENNA**

The 2010 documentary on the life of arguably the greatest F1 driver, Ayrton Senna, is something that everyone should watch. The film shows the life of Senna from his karting days up to his tragic death while racing at the 1994 San Marino Grand Prix in Italy. Many people involved in his F1 career, including his fiercest rivals such as Alain Prost and Mika Häkkinen, and team managers Ron Dennis and Sir Frank Williams were interviewed for the film.

The critically acclaimed film took a long time to be released widely because it ran for several hours. A shorter version was made for the general public to appreciate. However, I love the original longer version because it has more interviews and racing footages that I find vital to a race car driver. Do yourself a favor and watch it; we will never find someone like Senna for a long time.

4 **DAYS OF THUNDER**

I never had much love for NASCAR. But because this is my idol Tom Cruise's

first racing film, I couldn't let it pass. Robert Duvall, who plays an old race car engineer, and Nicole Kidman, who had yet to marry Cruise at that time, add to the film's appeal.

A lot of crashes that only NASCAR could give filled the movie, making other races look very safe. The rise-fall-rise-again of a rookie driver makes for a very entertaining plot, even though you know more or less how it would end.

5 **THE CANNONBALL RUN**

If there's a film that made me want to become a race car driver back then, it is 1981's *The Cannonball Run*. This racing comedy is made more entertaining by its cast: Burt Reynolds, Farrah Fawcett, Roger Moore, Dean Martin, Sammy Davis Jr., and Terry Bradshaw.

The coast-to-coast race in the film is based on an actual race format that survives up to today. This made me dream of racing as my sport. Soon enough, I learned that it is not good to race on the streets and racing is better kept on race tracks.

6 **TALLADEGA NIGHTS: THE BALLAD OF RICKY BOBBY**

Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby's hilarious funny man Will Ferrell is in his best form, spoofing a champion NASCAR driver who had it all during his glory time. A European champion then dislodges him from his perch and makes him struggle to find his championship-winning ways again. Ferrell's character also realizes how bad he and the others have been, and changes for the better to become a winner again. This movie is definitely worth your money, especially if you are a Ferrell fan. **S**



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Mr. Reynaldo Odulio Sr., PhD receives the Seal of Excellence for having the first Suzuki Big Bikes Center in the Philippines presented by Mr. Hiroshi Suzuki.



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Wheeltek and Suzuki Philippines opened the first Suzuki Big Bikes Center at the heart of country's Central Business District recently adding up another milestone to their already meaningful 4 decades of partnership.



Philippine Racing Champion & Legend Mr. Butch Chase delivered his congratulatory message to the two names in the motoring industry - Wheeltek and Suzuki which are both close to his heart

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Mr. Reynaldo Odulio Sr., PhD President of Wheeltek Motor Sales Corporation and Mr. Hiroshi Suzuki, President of Suzuki Philippines Inc. headed the ribbon cutting ceremonies joined by Wheeltek's Executive Vice President Mrs. Teresita Odulio and Vice President for Sales and Marketing Mr. Roscoe Odulio.



CEREMONIAL TOAST

Wheeltek General Manager Mr. Bobby Orbe, Suzuki Philippines Managing Director Norminio Mojica and General Manager for Sales and Marketing of Motorcycle Division Jun Bulot raised their glasses at the ceremonial toast.



CONGRATULATIONS!!! CHEERS!

INSIDE THE SUZUKI BIG BIKES CENTER



The Suzuki Information corner is designed to provide a comprehensive information about Suzuki Big Bikes with Apparel Display Module that showcases the brand's latest after sales offering.

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The whole center exudes the innovative and aesthetically pleasing ambience of the latest Suzuki 3S Shop concept. Accredited Suzuki mechanics are waiting for you to offer high quality service at the shop's Service Bay.



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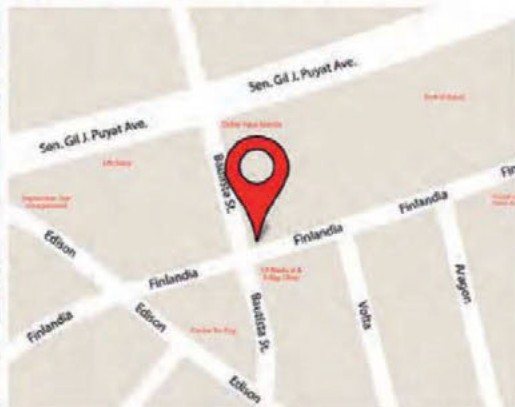
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COVER GIRL



IT'S A LAZY FRIDAY AFTERNOON. PART OF THE TEAM FOR SPEED'S COVER SHOOT WAS ALREADY AT THE STUDIO—SOME CHATTING WITH EACH OTHER WHILE OTHERS SAT SILENTLY ON THE COUCH. THE DOOR THEN CREAKED OPEN TO REVEAL SAM PINTO TALKING TO SOMEONE OVER THE PHONE. WEARING A TAWNY WRAP-AROUND DRESS THAT COMPLEMENTED HER BEACH-TANNED SKIN, SAM HUNG UP THE CALL AND INTRODUCED HERSELF.

S I R E N ' S
C A L L

Sam

INTERVIEW BY
PAT CALICA

PHOTOGRAPHS BY
MARLON PECJO



SAM PINTO



Pinto

Jumpsuit by @STYLEHAUL •
necklace by JUICY COUTURE



COVER GIRL

P

ERHAPS TRYING TO MATCH THE WEATHER OUTSIDE, THE SHOOT STARTED HUSHED-SOULFUL ALMOST-AND WITH A SEEMINGLY SHY SAM. BUT THE ENERGY INSIDE THE STUDIO SOARED GRADUALLY AS THE SUN SAT LOWER AND THE MUSIC FROM THE SPEAKER THUMPED LOUDER, FASTER. BY THE LAST LAYOUT, SAM WAS COMFORTABLY AND CONFIDENTLY MAKING FACES IN FRONT OF DOC MARLON'S CAMERA.



EVERYDAY GADGETS

iPhone 6, desktop computer, Sony camera

MUSIC

MUST-HAVES

Bose SoundLink, Bose SoundLink mini

GADGET WISHLIST

SLR camera

FAVORITE APPS

Spotify, Instagram

(@sampingto_)

MOST USED APP

Spotify



Music to her ears

SAM PINTO



"I love music!" Sam gushed when we talked about her stint in *MYX VJ Search 2008*. She was just 18 then and still figuring out what to do with her life. It's just one of the different things she wanted to try, especially since she really enjoys listening to music.

What was your experience like in the MYX VJ Search 2008?
I learned to be talkative because I'm not really *madaldal*. I'm just very chill; [I] keep to myself. But if you're going to audition for a VJ, of course you have to talk and be sociable.

So you love music. Let's play a quick game then. What's the one song that can make you laugh?
"Emergency" by Icona Pop. It's a funny song. No, no, no—it's just a *funky* song. It reminds me of the circus or something.

What's the song that can make you cry?
"When I see you again" by Wiz Khalifa because of the scene in the movie [*Furious 7*].

What song can make you dance?
Can I check my playlist? All the stuff I'm listening to now are super chill. Probably, "HyperParadise" by Hermitude.

The song that can make you sing along is...
"Fantasy" by Alina Baraz and Galimatias

Song that revs you up?
Nae nae! ("Watch me Whip/Nae Nae" by Silento) Right? It's the perfect song. Let's just nae nae.

What's your favorite movie soundtrack?
500 Days of Summer. Listen to it; it's actually cool.

We'll do. You've also been featured in Shehyee's single Trip Lang in 2013. How did the collaboration work out?
Oh my god! I'm from Viva; Shehyee's from Viva. I met him and then boss Vic said, "O, you're singing!" I don't really sing. I *try* to sing. Then the day came I had to record. It took me three hours for that little line. *Ang hirap pala mag-rap!* It's so different. And I just learned [my line] there.

You're just going to say the words. It should be easy, right?
No! It has a beat. It's different. It's so hard for me.

The video now has 13M views on YouTube. Surely, that's a good sign for another collaboration. Anything coming up soon?
I'm open to it. That would be fun [to do] again.

What's on your playlist now that you can recommend to us?
They're all beach sounds like unknown indie artists such as June Mariezy and Bondax. I've been listening to playlists like Majestic Casual and The Sound You Need. I'm actually a hip-hop fan. But now I'm leaning more toward the chills.

Who is your favorite artist?
My all-time favorite is Rihanna. RiRi! She can do anything or wear anything, and it's actually okay.

A different tune

Having been voted consistently as one of the sexiest in the Philippines and actually got proclaimed no. 1 twice, it was no surprise that Sam knew how to work her audience through the camera. Her eyes knew how to entice; the subtle pout of her lips left us staring.

We asked Sam if she plans to go more daring than her sexy onscreen image now. "No," the 24-year-old actress giggled. "I [became] number one twice already, so why do I have to go more? I think I'm going to change *na*."

What new persona will you be leaving your sexy image for?

I'm going beach-y. (*laughs*) Well, I guess just something different from [the sexy image]. I'm not really going conservative and all. I'm still going sexy but not as sexy as before.

Do you have a dream project or role?

Well, my peg for life is Angelina Jolie. I'm a Sagittarius; I'm into sports and anything like that. An action movie is something different. Maybe we don't have that here—sexy *na nag-a-action*?

But you've already done action-fantasy films?

Yeah, action-fantasy. But not one with guns and stuff. I like guns. I did archery *na* for *Si Agimat at Si Enteng Kabisote* and *Si Agimat, Si Enteng and Me*. So, [what I want is] action-action.

You also do comedy as a regular on Bubble Gang. What's it like on the set?

We don't feel like we're working at all. We all became family, so 'pag all-star cast [in a sketch], *laging ang ingay*. *Ang hirap mag-tape kasi* we are talking. *Pero* super fun. I get to play roles that I never [thought] I'll ever do.

How did you feel the first time you joined the cast?

It was so intimidating *tapos hindi pa ako marunong mag-Tagalog masyado nung time na 'yun*. But they're all really nice and they all treat me like family.

You've tried so many different genres already. Which one did you enjoy doing the most?

Probably comedy because it's very light and you don't need to dig deep inside. *Kasi nahihirapan ako kapag nagagalit [ako]*. *Nadadala ko*. I'm angry the whole day. *Parang ang bigat na ng feeling ko*.

I was playing this role *na bad girl ako*. *Ang hirap palang maging bad*. (*laughs*) So, I'd rather go the lighter side, [which is] comedy.

How do you prepare for these heavy scenes?

Honestly, it's funny. I normally—if it's a crying scene—think of my dog. He died *kasi* last year. And he's been with me since I was fourteen. I never thought I would cry that much in my life for a dog. It's weird, I know.

Oh, we don't find it weird at all. Sorry about your dog. You've done a lot of TV commercials, too. How different are those from being on TV?

They're two different worlds. In TVCs, you do [a scene] so many times. I mean 'yan 'yung *umaabot ng 80* takes because they want it to be perfect. So, if [you're going to] drink a soft drink, you're [going to] drink a lot of soft drinks. And [TVCs] are slow compared to TV. TV is super fast. It's like in one day they do what? 80 scenes?

Which of the two is more difficult then?

TV is harder because you work for 24 hours a day.

What would you have been doing right now if you didn't get into show business?

I was thinking fashion design. I'd probably be a designer right now or probably somewhere in Europe studying.

Why did you get into modeling by the way? You started very young.

I started modeling when I was 10. That was just on the side. Why not, right? I never thought I will enter showbiz.

Behind the camera, what is the one thing we should know about Sam Pinto?

She's crazy. Good crazy. Like, fun crazy.



COVER GIRL

“
[I’m]
crazy.
Good
crazy.
Like, fun
crazy.”



Sequin dress by @STYLEHAUL

Gold dress by
@ATELIERMARIANNEPEREZ

Idyllic Life

Sam does not religiously follow TV series, except for *C.S.I.* Check her phone and you won't find any games in there. She is inclined to do active stuff like traveling and surfing, which is what she's been busy doing on her free time.

But when not on the beach, Sam stays at home, crawls on her bed, and does nothing the whole day—probably checking Instagram or Facebook, or scouring playlists on Spotify.

How much time do you spend online?
24/7. (Laughs)

Can you go long without internet?
Definitely. I lost my phone in Australia. I didn't have a phone for four or five days. Okay *lang* actually. *Ang sarap ng feeling. Ang hassle lang na wala akong picture. Di ba?* You're traveling [and you have] no pictures.

What do you think is the greatest tech or gadget ever invented?
The internet.

Is there a gadget or tech that you think should have been invented by now?
Yes, flying cars.

And you'll probably fly off to the beach. How long have you been surfing?
I've been surfing for about three years. But since I'm not super busy now, I have more time to go [to the beach].

SAM PINTO



Which surfing spots have you already tried?

Siargao, Baler, San Juan in La Union, and Mati in Davao.

Where's your favorite?

Baler. It's so pretty there. On the way there is very scenic. It's all trees, and there's this reservoir that when you pass it on one side there's this lake [and] on one side is forest. The beach stretch is really long; you could choose your spot, really.

Of the places you've been to, which one's your favorite?

Last year we went to Scandinavia. I actually like Helsinki. It's a very quaint town with all the old-looking buildings.

What's your dream travel destination?

All over Africa.

What's on top of your 2015 bucket list?

Actually, [in] September I'm leaving [for] Europe. We're doing all the Croatia, Slovenia, and other places I cannot pronounce. To go there, that's my number one. Ay! To be a pro surfer *pa pala*.

How do you go from an amateur surfer to pro?

Surfing needs a lot of time and practice. There are three different kinds of boards. You start with the longboard when you're just about to learn. And then my board, the funboard. And the short board. I have to move *pa* from fun to short. So *dapat* short and you start doing tricks in the water.

When staying in, do you like watching TV series?

No. I don't watch series. I don't know why. Well, I only watch one—*C.S.I.* I've finished all the seasons already, but I have not gotten the new one.

What's the last movie you've seen?

Jurassic World. I actually loved it. I wish there was a real Jurassic world. I would actually go. *Ang saya 'no?* I don't find Chris Pratt really hot, but he is hot there. And my only comment is on the heels. Why?

We were asking the same thing, too!

Di ba? I also watched *Insidious 3*.

How was it?

Baduy! I can sleep at night. This *Insidious* has only one *mumu*, one evil dude.

Let's talk about something scarier then: how does a man win your attention in a crowded room?

Well, he has to be good-looking. I also like guys who are straight to the point. *Ayoko nung maraming arte.*

What's the first thing you notice in a guy?

Teeth.

Favorite part of a man?

Favorite part? Probably the eyes. I'm an eyes person.

What turns you off?

If you are so *kulit*. And I like doing stuff by myself or on my own. If he stops me from doing what I want, *bahala siya*. I'll [still] do it. *Ganun ako.*

If a man will serenade you, what song do you want him to sing?

"The Way You Look Tonight"

Describe the ideal romantic night.

Bonfire and marshmallows by the beach

Take note, guys!



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ONE COUNTRY AT A TIME

SHERWIN DELA CRUZ

Country Manager
iflix Internet TV/Entertainment

Interview by JOHN SOSMEÑA
Photos courtesy of iflix



At 30 years old, Sherwin Dela Cruz heads the Philippine office of one of Southeast Asia's fastest-rising entertainment companies. Being a country manager in the continually growing internet TV industry takes a lot of work, and Sherwin makes sure he gets the job done, bringing thousands of hours of viewable content to every Filipino's entertainment device.

With his dream closing in on him faster, he shares how it feels to be part of a revolutionary industry. What pushes him: his team, gadgets, past experiences, and Son Goku himself.

You're one of the big guys now in the industry, but tell us a little bit about how you got to the top of iflix in the Philippines.

Almost immediately after [graduating from] Ateneo, I went to work at IBM. It didn't last long. After two and a half months, I resigned; I felt that it was very limiting to say the least.

After that, I went to start my first startup company: Tradeport. It was very crude commerce; it wanted to become Amazon in the Philippines [but] was too early for its time. It was a very big learning experience for me [and] it taught me *na* wherever I want to get in, I need to jump in with both of my feet. Eventually, it pivoted me towards a different model, which is called BluPass. It was really the other side of Netflix, and so I have sold [BluPass] exclusively to Samsung Philippines.

After that, I met my future (but now ex) partner. He wanted to get into the digital space, and I was very knowledgeable. We developed a business plan (which later gave birth to ClickPlay) that was very similar to iflix, but not SVoD (Subscription Video on Demand). It was TVoD (Transactional Video on Demand).

Almost immediately after two years, I wanted to get into the SVoD space. I met up with iflix, flew to Malaysia in hopes that they would buy ClickPlay as a whole and re-brand as iflix. Along the way, it was easier for me to leave and be with iflix, to lead iflix as a whole. That's sort of my story.

How influential were TV and movies to you growing up?

Definitely, very influential. I watch a lot of TV and movies. They have shaped and defined me as a whole, too.

Any favorite TV shows you remember growing up?

Dragon Ball, cartoons, and [similar] things. [I] like older shows *na hindi na mainstream*. Like for example, I'm a very big fan of *F.R.I.E.N.D.S.* I watch it again and again. I'm such a creature of habit.

What about movies?

Matrix! *Mga* hardcore guy [movies], *Transformers*, etc. Very manly [ones].

You must be a pro at setting up your home theater.

It's always a struggle in a sense that technology is moving so fast. Not so long ago, like in '07, TVs back then were 30-inch *na square pa* then now *biglang* next-gen. *Palaki nang palaki, pamura nang pamura*.

So, your home setup should be something adaptable?

Yes, but that's where the struggle is. The earlier you buy technology, the more expensive and the less connected it is. Next thing you know, if you're not using them as much, [they become obsolete]. Technology is coming out with so much [new developments]. It always pushes you to pay for more. It's costly, to say the least.

And we all take the bait. But connoisseurs like you are understandably hard to satisfy.

I think I may have found my audiophile solution, which is to buy a Sonos Playbar *na* wireless, and has AirPlay [and] Bluetooth. It's clean-looking. [Just] hook it up to your TV. I tried [the Playbar] *na*, but I haven't bought it yet. I'll probably get one soon.

You seem to be very careful with these things.

I've always been that person [who goes for the] newest phone. But fairly recently, it just doesn't make that much sense for me, so I'm upgrading my gadgets not as fast as I did before.

When you're not in front of a screen, what keeps you busy?

I'm very much into cars. I did some (track) racing and whatnot. That's as outdoor as I am. I love tinkering with whatever.

I'm so much into the gadget scene *na* once upon a time, jailbroken 'yung iPhone (ko), rooted 'yung Android. I have since then settled *kasi pabilis nang pabilis* 'yung technology.

You consider yourself a techie at heart?

I'm a hardcore techie. Hardcore. From a [PC perspective], I'm a hardcore Mac fanboy, the type that will talk everyone against Windows.

When I use my Androids, [I do so] up to the last ROM. The last phone I had, I kept changing the ROM, like *parang babae* with shoes.



Photo by ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN

What are the gadgets that you can't leave home without?

Before iflix, it could have been my iPad Air. But as soon as I got to iflix, it wasn't enough. It had to be a full-fledged laptop.

But the simplest answer right now? iPhone 6 Plus—big battery life, big screen. [I use] WhatsApp and email a lot, and I check out social [media networks] a lot. [I'm] really happy with it 'cause it's stable.

What inspired you to work for iflix?

It's the same pitch I use now that was used on me back then: It's about how to change customer behavior. The goal was to bring [entertainment] into as many hands as possible, to get more and more people to enjoy it. [iflix Group CEO] Mark [Britt] was the one who hired me; originally with Mark as the CEO, we just shared that common vision, and I'm very interested to implement that same vision across the Philippines.

What do you think about the internet TV industry in the Philippines?

I think it starts with segregating different segments of the market first—A, B, C, D. There's always that time wherein similar people talk about the same thing. There's always that driver, that word of mouth, but that's not scalable. It's limited, and I think iflix will be the force that will make everything scalable.

It sounds all good, but can the internet connection available here in the Philippines handle what iflix has to offer?

Two points: One is that there's always going to be that optimal connection. It just needs a certain loading time. The second is the education of the market. It's side-by-side. A bigger question or issue is: do people know that [watching] HD needs faster speeds and more bandwidth?

So, the biggest challenge is...

Customer behavior. People paying for content. Spotify has started that revolution. They're tapping the economics to it; they want to get it into as many hands as possible. It's the same scenario here for us.

What's the best thing about working for iflix?

It's being part of this group that executes this vision or dream that's not so crazy. A lot of people ask about piracy, but we're very confident. What will [we] do when Netflix comes in? We're not scared at all. [What iflix offers is] a pricing meant for Filipinos. [iflix has] a lot of content, and we feel very competitive and confident.

Where do you see iflix in the near future?

I see us dominating in this space, in this country. I see us moving into more territories in the ASEAN region. If we can ramp up more content in shorter amounts of time and be in more territories, that would really be where we want to be. But Philippines is clearly where we want to dominate. We want to be the leader in the market; I think we're off to a good start.





DADDY'S DUO

DCash
Pioneer DJs

Darren and Cashwell, collectively known as DCash, might be the youngest professional DJs in the country right now, but this should not come as a surprise because DJing is in their blood. Their father, DJ M.O.D., is an active professional DJ as well and is an original member of the hip-hop group Mastaplann, which rose to fame in the 1990s. As second-generation music artists, Darren and Cashwell are filling their daddy's big shoes fast.



First, how old are you?

I'm Darren and I'm 15 years old. My brother Cashwell is 10 years old.

Where and how do you DJ? You're not supposed to get into clubs yet.

Most of our gigs are big festivals and school parties. We only play in outdoor events since we're not allowed to play in clubs yet.

How did you get started in DJing?

We started DJing three years ago, [using] an iPad app called Traktor. Then our dad (DJ M.O.D.) bought us our first controller, the DDJ-SX. After a few weeks we told our dad, "Dad! We don't like this anymore. Hahahaha!" He said, "Why?" We told him that it's easy, and it feels like a toy, so he bought us the real thing, a CDJ-2000s and a DJM-900 Platinum Pack.

How do you balance school and DJing?

We only touch our equipment during the weekend. If it's a weekday, we touch our books.

Good kids. Who are your favorite bands?

Local: Eraserheads. International: The Beatles.

Who are the international and local DJs that you look up to?

Martin Garrix, Dimitri Vegas, and Like Mike are some of the artists we look up to.

And of course, our dad. He was the first Philippine DJ to represent our country in the U.K. for the DMC World DJ championships, and he ended up no. 4 in the world out of 64 countries! He's a music producer and made massive hits through the years.

Where and when was your first gig as a DJ?

The first gig we had was in G-Strip, Quezon City. It was an event for the victims of Typhoon Yolanda. DJ Ace Ramos was the one who booked us. It was one of the most memorable nights of our lives because it was the very first time we played in front of a crowd! Thanks, DJ Ace!

How do you prepare for your DJing gigs?

The night before the gig, we make sure everything is set—the tracks, our USB drives. We even test run our USB drives at home just to make sure they're functioning properly. We also like to play a quick game of NBA 2K15.

How would you describe your DJing style?

Our style of DJing is more of a crowd-pleaser. We start off by playing melodic tracks. If we see the crowd getting into the vibe, we start to play some hard tracks. The style of DJing matters. Like [what] Laidback Luke said, "You don't want to be a fake Hardwell or a fake Dimitri Vegas."

What DJing and audio gear do you own?

For DJing, we have a pair of CDJ-2000s and a DJM-900. For producing, we have a Mac Pro. We have an SSL (Solid State Logic) Nucleus; this is where all the sounds pass. For the speakers, we have a pair of Genelecs and also a pair of JBLs. We use Logic Pro 9 and Pro Tools 10 as our DAW (Digital Audio Workstation).

What are the gadget must-haves of a DJ?

If you're into producing and at the same time a DJ, the gadget that you must have is a computer that runs smoothly, and a good pair of monitor speakers.

The thing you like most and least about DJing?

The thing we like the most about DJing is playing our own song in front of thousands of people and seeing them have fun. Nothing beats that feeling!

The least that we like about DJing is when we feel nervous at the beginning of every set. Well actually, it isn't the least we like about DJing. We love being nervous. When it's our turn already, after dropping our first song, the nervousness changes into an energy which you send to the crowd.



HUNGRY HOTTIE

JESSICA MILNER

Pioneer DJ



This fresh-faced DJ has taken the club circuit by storm and isn't stopping anytime soon. A dancer for 14 years, Jessica Milner can't live without music. When she started going out to clubs as a youngster, she found disc jockeying to be the coolest job in the world and set her eyes—or ears—to that goal. And now, she's living her dream.

What was the first ever audio gadget you owned?

A Walkman. I wasn't allowed to own a pager (then).

Do you still remember your first-ever gig as a DJ? What's the most memorable so far?

Yes I do! It was in the Club Room of 7th High, and I DJed alongside my mentor Aryan Magat and my brother from another mother Nix Damn P. It was hilarious because I was shaking like crazy, and poor Aryan had to calm me down half the time. I can't really pinpoint my most memorable gig because a lot of them have been amazing—both the underground and mainstream crowd.

How do you prepare for your DJing gigs?

I guess it depends on where my gig is. If it's in a festival or if I'm opening for an international DJ, I'm usually a nervous wreck and I have to cry in the corner for a little bit (totally exaggerated by the way haha).

Who are your music influences?

So many musicians influence me that I'll take up the whole page if I mention all of them. But off the top of my head as of this day: the international [artists] are Shortkut, the Soulection crew, A Trak, and I recently just heard J. Espinosa's Redbull Thre3style set, and I am now a fan. Locally it's definitely DJ Aryan Magat, Mars Miranda, Ace Ramos, Nix Damn P, and Badkiss, and I am very lucky to call them my friends.

The thing you like most and least about DJing?

I love that my work revolves around music, and I love that I'm surrounded by such inspiring and talented people. It's like we're one big family, and I absolutely love that about our industry. The only thing I don't like about DJing is the toll it takes on my health. All the late nights really get to you.

Any other talents, hobbies, or sports?

I like to make art, usually in the form of paintings. And yeah, if anyone's down for Ninja Academy or Laser Tag, I'm always game. Haha!

When you're not hyping up crowds in clubs, parties, and events, what do you usually do?

I travel as much as I can. Whenever I have out-of-town/country gigs, I always make it a point to stay longer because I like to explore. If I'm in the Metro, I usually like trying new restaurants and cooking. I'm also a huge movie geek.

Is DJing something you'd stick to for five or 10 more years?

I don't think I'll ever stop DJing until I go deaf, so let's pray that never

happens. I'm already going into business right now with URBN and quite possibly Beat Project Manila, so I'm sure 10 years from now, I'll still be doing something music related.

Any tips for aspiring DJs out there?

As cliché as it sounds, stay hungry. Be nice to everyone, and work your way up the right way by not kissing ass and being thirsty (if you know what I mean). I can't stress this enough: learn how to network. It's the best thing you can do for your DJ career.

FAST FACTS

What's the most played song on your music player?

Hahahahaha! I just checked and it's "Summer of 69" by Bryan Adams

What's the most played album on your music player?

PARTYNEXTDOOR's *PARTYNEXTDOOR TWO*

Favorite playlist: On Spotify? It's my Illuminacho Conspiracheese playlist

What song/s can make you:

- **laugh?** "Shook Me All Night Long" by ACDC because of my karaoke moment in San Francisco and "S2pid Luv" by Salbakuta (but I memorize it yo)
- **cry?** "So This Is Goodbye (Pink Ganter Remix)" by William Fitzsimmons and "The Wilhelm Scream" by James Blake
- **dance?** "Twerk It Out" by Usher, "Pogo" by Digitalism, "Fellin' Myself" by Mac Dre, and "Gold (Snakehips Remix)" by Bondax
- **sing?** "Marvin's Room" by Drake and "How Many Drinks" by Miguel
- **revved up?** "Call on Me" by Janet Jackson and "Do you... (Cashmere Cat Remix)" by Miguel

Everyday gadgets: My iPhone and MacBook Pro

Gadget you can't leave home without: My iPhone. I would die.

Favorite mobile app: Candy Crush Soda and Discover Music

Most used app: Instagram

Gadget wishlist: Pioneer DJE-2000 and is it weird if I say air fryer?



RADIO STAR

MARGAUX
SUE CORTEZ

Radio jockey
99.5 PlayFM

Saucy radio jockey Margaux Sue Cortez is said to be born for the radio—that is, if it weren't for her looks. But her deep love and knowledge of hip-hop music and culture makes her the perfect person to usher you into the beat-driven dark side. One-half of the beautiful duo behind *Pink Power* (weekdays 3-5 p.m. on 99.5 PlayFM), Margaux talks of past rejections, musical influences, growing up in California, and the real person behind the beautiful voice.

How did you get into being a radio DJ?

Through some friends of mine who insisted I belong on radio, I was able to audition a few times for a station years ago. But for whatever reason I didn't get the gigs. Fast forward to last year, I sat down with a good friend of mine, DJ Jena, and decided our tandem would be great for radio. We came up with a show title, segments, etc. Wave 89.1 picked us up after we presented ourselves and our show.

How was it for you in the beginning?

It's still the beginning for me, I think. I've only be on air for the past year. Of course, when I started out, I had no idea how to work the equipment, but it's definitely something that I just had to immerse myself in. I've left the mic on when I thought I had turned it off and cursed. It's really just about learning from your mistakes and keeping on.

What kind of music did you grow up listening to?

Everything! Because I grew up with my *lola*, there was a lot of jazz—Frank Sinatra and Ella Fitzgerald. She also is the reason why I know the lyrics to the *Miss Saigon* soundtrack. My dad was a huge influence as well, teaching me a lot about Eric Clapton and other blues/rock bands.

What radio stations did you listen to a lot back then?

I grew up in California. But when I got to the age where I wanted to choose what stations to tune in to, there were three I would listen to regularly: 106.1 KMEL because it was hip-hop and R&B; Wild 94.9 for its dance and R&B, plus their morning shows and personalities were hilarious; and 96.5 KOIT at night before sleeping because they had great old school slow jams to put me to bed.

Who are your favorite artists/bands now?

That is a really tough question because I listen to so many different genres. Off the top of my head: Erykah Badu, J.Cole, Kendrick Lamar, Drake, etc.

How do you prepare for going live on air?

My partner Katz Salao and I think of a topic for each day, and we give ourselves about 30 minutes before going on air to research more about it. We also try to see what personal experiences we have gone through that may relate to the topic. We just want to make our listeners feel at home, like they know us.

How would you describe your radio jockeying style?

Silly, sarcastic, and fun.

Who are your music influences?

All the icons of this world! Michael Jackson and Janet for starters.

Who are the international and local radio DJs radio jockeys that you look up to?

Anyone out there bringing laughter to their listeners

What audio equipment do you own for personal use?

None. Haha! I should probably invest in a good set of headphones though.

How do you stay updated about the latest in music?

The internet is a huge help! I follow certain artists and international stations on Twitter and Instagram.

What challenges you the most about being a radio jockey?

Probably (it's) always having to be entertaining or intriguing on air. A lot of energy is used in those three hours of the day!

Any hobbies or sports?

I enjoy shooting hoops and just got into swimming. I love to dance, sing, and I'm trying to teach myself to play the guitar. But that's been an ongoing struggle since I was in high school. Haha!

Any tips for aspiring radio jockeys out there?

It's not as easy as it seems, so when you get the opportunity, just continue to learn and grow. There is always room to grow!

FAST FACTS

Most played song on your music player:

I just checked iTunes on my laptop and it says "Run" by Marsha Ambrosius

Most played album: *Souled Out* by Jhene Aiko

What's the one song that can make you:

- **laugh?** "Watch Me" by Silento
- **cry?** "Just Like Water" by Lauryn Hill
- **dance?** Almost anything!
- **sing?** Any song by Ella Fitzgerald
- **revved up?** Pretty much any rap song from the Bay Area from the 2000s

Gadget you can't leave home without: My cellphone

Favorite mobile app: Spotify has been amazing lately. Snapchat is getting more use than Instagram for me lately.

Most used app: Probably Snapchat

Top three on your gadget wishlist: New iPhone, great quality portable speakers, and a new laptop



SMALL SCREEN HOTSHOT

IZA DARLENE CAY

Researcher-Producer GMA News and Public Affairs (Special Assignments Team)

Many times we overlook the amount of work that a show or segment on TV takes—from the depth of research that a line of reporting entails to the amount of detail that each video frame packs. A lot of people are involved in producing content, and the likes of Iza Darlene Cay know this all too well. In her line of work, those who keep things together behind the scenes are the real celebrities.

What made you want to go into the TV media industry?

I have always wanted to pursue a career in media. However, since my training was focused on print and online media, entering the TV media industry was the one of the last things that I thought I would do. But when I started looking for a full-time job, this amazing opportunity came to me. Among all the other available courses of action, it entailed being able to take part in generating in-depth and investigative stories—the kind (of stories) that I am really passionate about. So I took it.

How did you start?

I started as a Program Researcher for the Special Assignments Team. However, I am lucky to have been given the opportunity to produce news segments. This means being in charge of a story and heading a team that facilitates the whole process of making a news package or segment. I've produced a couple of segments for GMA NewsTV's Brigada.

What kinds of shows did you grow up watching?

I've always watched the news. Other children my age might find it boring or uninteresting, but not me. Other than that, I watched the usual cartoons and TV shows for kids that every '90s kid grew up with.

How influential was TV in shaping your interest in pursuing a career in media?

Well, I have always loved watching documentaries. I think this interest came even before I grew a habit of watching the daily evening newscast. I would say that in some way, it became a big influence in my desire to tell stories. It developed my understanding that there are so many issues that we need to shed light on and that every person has a story to tell.

Any favorite writers or news/TV personalities you look up to?

Ah! Too many to mention! Yvonne Chua, Nellie Bly (or Elizabeth Cochrane Seaman), Jessica Soho, Carl Bernstein, Bob Woodward, Luis Teodoro. There are lots more.

What's the typical day in a life of a TV researcher/producer like you?

My typical day would start with a few unread emails and text

messages. I call up individuals and offices to request data or some other information. I research for an ongoing story. I schedule a shoot (if needed). If there is a shoot, then that is another story.

What are the things you love the most about your job in the TV media industry?

I love the fact that I am able to tell stories not just through words but through video as well. It constantly challenges me to flex my creative muscles.

What challenges do you typically face?

The constant need for story generation and the need for new ways to tell stories

What role does technology play in your field?

Technology plays an extremely crucial role in our field. We use different gadgets and equipment to produce stories. As a researcher/producer, I can't live without my cellphone, computer, and camera.

Outside work, what are your other hobbies?

I love to read books, watch TV series, and see movies (in theaters) alone. My favorite series right now are *Game of Thrones*, *Jane the Virgin*, *The Newsroom*, and *Suits*. When it comes to books and movies, I like to explore. So I do not really have a favorite.

What's your go-to hangout spot?

Coffee shops. Quiet, cozy coffee shops.

Any advice for those who want to pursue a career in the TV media industry?

Always, always have presence of mind. Develop a thick skin. And always be eager to learn new things. Broadcast journalism can be so technical. You just have to be open to gaining new information and acquiring new skills.

Do you see yourself still working for the media industry 10 years from now?

Yes. I think that 10 years from now, I will still be a journalist. It has always been what I wanted to do, and I do not think it is going to change any time soon.

FAST FACTS

Everyday gadgets: Cellphone and laptop

Gadget you can't leave home without: Cellphone

Most used app: Evernote again! I use it to take notes from meetings, conversations or readings. I also use it during shoots.

Gadget wishlist: DSLR, MacBook



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NAME

MAILING ADDRESS

PHONE NO.

EMAIL ADDRESS

BIRTHDAY

CIVIL STATUS

OCCUPATION

COMPANY NAME

DISCOUNTED RATES

METRO MANILA

- ☐ 6 ISSUES P720
☐ 12 ISSUES P1,440

PAYMENT FOR PICK UP

- ☐ cash ☐ check

OR

CREDIT CARD

- ☐ MasterCard
☐ Visa
☐ BPI Express Credit

CARD #

EXPIRY DATE

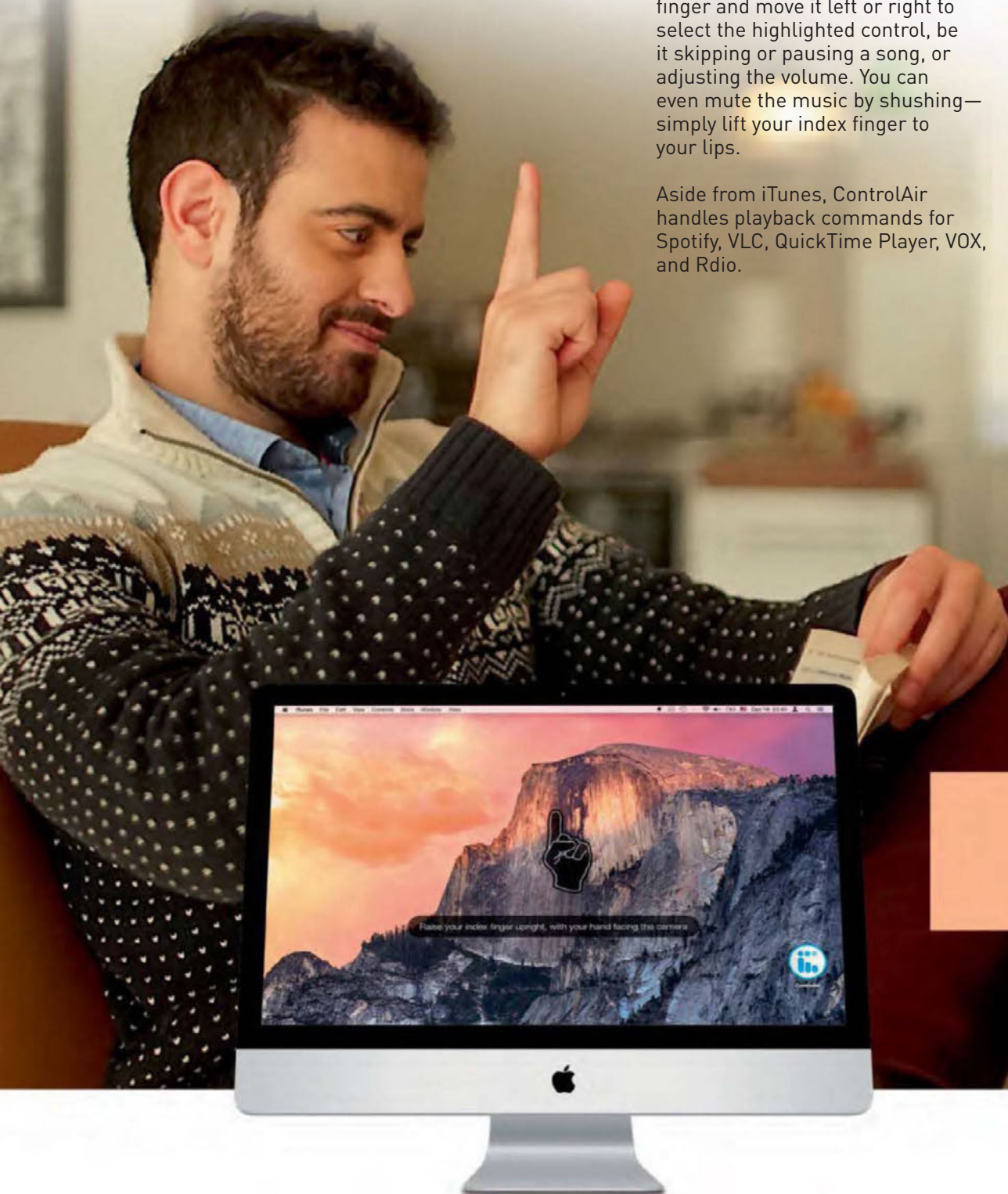
DID YOU KNOW?

**YOU CAN CONTROL YOUR
iTunes ON YOUR MAC WITHOUT
TOUCHING YOUR KEYBOARD
OR MOUSE. ALL YOU NEED IS
A MAGIC WAND: YOUR FINGER.**

You can do this using your Mac's iSight camera and a free app called ControlAir. After installing ControlAir from the Mac App Store, you'll need to watch a brief tutorial that doubles as an initial setup process.

Once done, you simply raise your finger and move it left or right to select the highlighted control, be it skipping or pausing a song, or adjusting the volume. You can even mute the music by shushing—simply lift your index finger to your lips.

Aside from iTunes, ControlAir handles playback commands for Spotify, VLC, QuickTime Player, VOX, and Rdio.



Journal

"Is vinyl better than _____?"

*And other silly questions
you I used to ask*



VAL J. GONZALES

NIelsen SOUNDSCAN, THE LEADING DATA PROVIDER FOR THE BILLBOARD MUSIC CHARTS, REPORTED THAT VINYL SALES HIT A RECORD OF 6.1 MILLION UNITS IN THE U.S. IN 2014. THIS IS A FAR CRY FROM ITS PLUMMETING SALES IN 2008.

I caught the tail end of the vinyl era when cassette tapes were just beginning to attract consumers. People turned to cassettes for its portability, and while elder vinyl lovers were right to say that magnetic tapes had no hope in surpassing the sound quality offered by plastic records, the turntables were no match for the cheaper electronic tape decks that were on the rise during that time.

QUALITY AGAINST DIGITAL AUDIO

Theoretically, an analog medium can store greater, if not equal, audio fidelity than digital media. This means that, under very ideal situations, vinyl records can produce better musical quality than an audio CD. An ideal situation means that the vinyl copy, turntable, stylus, amplifier, cables, and speakers are of the highest quality.

CDs and digital media, on the other end, have fixed and finite ways of capturing sound waves. Very good digital recordings have an audio spectrum of ~96kHz (which is almost as good as analog recordings) while CDs have ~22kHz. During playback, CDs have a sampling rate of 44100kHz and a dynamic range of 16 bits.

Digital sampling cuts away most of the parts our ears can't supposedly hear. Audiophiles may see this as a drawback to listening pleasure, but according to a scientific study conducted by Japanese scientists about perceptual discrimination between recorded music with and without high-frequency components, there is no apparent difference to an untrained ear. (For further geek study, please look up Nyquist-Shannon sampling theorem.)

In contrast, vinyl records do sound better than compressed digital music like MP3s, FLAC, AACs, WAVs, and whatever format you have on your tablets or PCs.

To visualize, think of analog signals as smooth, continuous lines plotted on the graph, while digital signals are dots plotted on certain intervals. From a certain distance, the two graphs may look the same, especially if the intervals are very little. However, upon closer inspection, you can see the jaggedness of the dots compared to the smoother line.

THE IMPORTANCE OF MASTERING

So, which Foo Fighter album should I get: the CD or the vinyl release? The answer lies in the way the album was mastered.

Mastering is an art performed by a sound engineer to transfer music from the recording medium to consumer media such as CDs, cassette tapes, and vinyl records. Digital masters are then used to create streaming copies and iTunes tracks.

In the early days, mastering for CDs and vinyl records were very much the same. So, if the digitally mastered album was re-released in vinyl, you should probably go for the CD.

In recent years, sound engineers have developed specific methods to optimize the sonic quality for both vinyl and digital. Low frequencies are reduced in vinyl records because they might cause damage to the physical needle when played back. The playing time length is also edited because the size of a vinyl record has a limiting factor to the length of the music.

The answer therefore is to listen to both the CD and the vinyl and let your ears decide because one could sound very much different—or not so—from the other.

VALUE FOR MONEY

People buy vinyl records not necessarily for the technical qualities but for the perceived "warmth" when listening to it. The imperfections of a vinyl record offer pleasing experiences to a human ear. They stir up emotions to transport aficionados momentarily to the past.

Others choose vinyl because they appreciate the art done by human hands from the mastering process to the actual pressing of the vinyl records. CDs are thought to be reproduced easily by machines.

Compared with digital music, vinyl records are real, tangible objects that you can hold and share with others without the guilt of piracy. Building a vinyl collection is like investing in real estate instead of putting your money on stock ownerships of some company you don't even know. I have this belief that purchasing digital stuff does not necessarily make you own them. Think of locking yourself out of your Spotify account! Buying vinyl records won't cause you this dilemma.

The only drawback I can see in vinyl records is that they physically degrade through time. The vinyl may warp if exposed to direct sunlight and could then sound terrible when played. As with cassettes, the physical damages are irreversible. But if you search on the internet, I'm sure there are proper handling methods to delay this process.

Decades ago, I didn't expect the cassettes to virtually go out of circulation so soon after replacing vinyl. But it's a cycle. Recently, I attended a Vinyl Day program hosted by a popular vinyl shop and realized that vinyl records have indeed clawed their way back to the mainstream music industry.

Choose your first guitar

Words **JOHN SOSMEÑA**

For some, buying a guitar off the rack of a music store may be enough. But for guitar aficionados, choosing the right brand and model takes work, patience, and dedication to the craft.

A good first lesson for the budding John Mayer in you is this: start right and get a good piece of equipment (as long as your wallet and soul say yes). Here are a few helpful things to consider when making your first guitar purchase.



ELECTRIC OR ACOUSTIC?

First things first: figure out what you want to play—rock or pop, country or blues, heavy metal or contemporary? For a lot of people, any guitar could work, but if you're going to start on a new hobby and perhaps a serious life's passion, start it right.

If you're aiming for some hardcore guitar slaying à la Joe Satriani or John Petrucci, you've got to look for an electric guitar. If you opt for the contemporary, singer-songwriter route like Taylor Swift or Ed Sheeran, you might as well start off and look for an acoustic (nylon or steel string) or an acoustic-electric type.

YOU CAN'T PLAY ON BROKEN STRINGS

Nylon or steel strings? Picking the right strings is essential for your growth as a budding guitarist. Always take note of the gauge or thickness; this will save you the trouble of having to

replace the strings every now and then. Professional players use a large gauge, which takes more strength and precision; beginners may opt to use a lighter gauge for practice and fundamentals.

String quality is also important, and most of the time you get better quality from more expensive brands. Save up for a D'Addario (around P450), which should last up to two years if taken care of. If you're up for it, get an Elixir set (P500-1,000), which offers tone and durability.

THE PRICE IS RIGHT!

Let's talk budget. Guitars can be as cheap as an average day's salary or as expensive as a car, which means you'll have to look into your savings and your willingness to spend on equipment. P5,000 to P7,500 can get you a really good guitar for learning your riffs. If you want to prepare yourself for a serious performance or gig, the guitar for you would cost up to P60,000, depending on the brand, edition, and type.

KNOCK ON WOOD

As much as making music on this wooden instrument is an art, so is its crafting. Good guitars are obviously made of high-quality wood, most of which are imported. The so-called tonewood dictates the specific sound and atmosphere the guitar produces, and contributes to the guitar's durability.

It is important to note the type of wood used on your guitar and the climate you live in. Be careful when buying imported guitars that use wood grown in colder or hotter countries. Warping or cracking is a big letdown because it will affect the tone and feel of your beloved instrument.

BRAND CONSCIOUS

Guitar brands are something to take into consideration. For a beginning guitarist looking to work his way up, you may start with a Yamaha, Suzuki, or an Epiphone guitar. When you're ready to go to the next level, then save up for an Ibanez, Gibson, or Taylor. Explore other noteworthy brands that fit your taste, too, like Maton for the huskier, Aussie feel (used by Andy McKee, Joe Robinson, and Tommy Emmanuel), or The Loar (Gabe Bondoc's choice) for a hybrid spin.

Wirelessly connect your mobile device to an HDTV

WHILE SHARING YOUR TRAVEL PHOTOS VIA FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM SOUNDS FUN, SHARING IT WITH A LARGER GROUP FACE-TO-FACE SOUNDS MORE THRILLING. WHY NOT FLASH YOUR CRAZY ROAD TRIP PHOTOS OR WILD VIDEO OUTTAKES TO YOUR HDTV FOR YOUR BARKADA'S ADDED ENTERTAINMENT?

One of the more tried and tested ways of connecting a mobile device to a TV is by using an HDMI cable. But if you do not want to go through the hassle of dealing with wires, here are some wireless methods you may want to try.

If you're an **Android user**, the go-to wireless standard is Miracast. If you have an Android device running Android 4.2 and above and a TV that supports Miracast, both devices should pair up easily. Simply create a network via your TV and pair your Android device by activating "screen mirroring." If your TV does not support Miracast, no worries; you can buy a Miracast dongle instead to do the same.

As Miracast uses screen mirroring, your TV would display whatever is on your phone's or tablet's screen. The only downside with screen mirroring is that you have to leave your device's screen on. If your Android device suddenly sleeps or shuts down due to low battery power, your TV screen will turn black.

An alternative would be to purchase a Google Chromecast dongle to plug to your TV. The cool thing about the Chromecast is that it does most of the work instead of your Android device, thereby saving you battery life while you play movies from your mobile device.

If you are an **iOS user**, you can connect your iPhone, iPad, or Mac to an Apple TV using Airplay, which is Apple's wireless display standard. The only difficulty with Airplay is that you will need an Apple TV to create a direct connection.

CLEAN YOUR HEADPHONES



While a stylish pair of headphones gives you added swag, frequent use can wear down its luster. Sooner or later, it may need some tidying up. Here are some tips to keep your headphones looking like they just came out of the box.

USE A DAMP CLOTH. There's no replacement to the classic cloth and water. But note that adding water does not mean soaking your wiper all-out and using it while dripping in liquid. A simple damp cloth may be enough to wipe the edges, earbuds, and some of the interior. After all, you won't want your hard-earned AKGs to look like it came out of the washing machine. If you're on the go, having some wet wipes can come as a good replacement to the damp cloth and should work out fine.

APPLY SOLUTIONS. For grimy and smelly headphones, you may want to apply some minimal soap, dishwashing, or alcohol to your wiper to help rid off the foul odor and kill the bacteria causing the olfactory hysteria.

CLEAN IN DETAIL. Some individuals may want to get down to the nitty gritty details of cleaning. How about using cotton buds to clean the narrow edges of your ear buddy? After all, it's never bad to be extra clean. An old brush can also work well to clean soiled or stained headphones.

GET A LITTLE HELP. Some brands may require their personal cleaning style. Check your manual or ask the sales person before buying to learn the best way to maintain your headphone's sanitation. For instance, Bose recommends the use of hydrogen peroxide, while Beats prefers dry cleaning. Experiment on what works best for you. As long as you don't end up affecting your headphone's audio quality or breaking down your gear, you're on the right track.

Words **ANTONIO JOSE GALAURAN**



COMPRESS LARGE VIDEO FILES WITHOUT AFFECTING QUALITY

EVER BEEN IN THAT SITUATION WHEN YOUR DRIVE HAS REACHED MAXIMUM MEMORY CAPACITY BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO DELETE A SINGLE SAVED MOVIE FROM YOUR COLLECTION? WE THINK WE HAVE THE SOLUTION FOR YOU.

Thanks to H.265 video coding, you can now cut back the size of your large video files without compromising quality. That's right, screen buffs. You can free up half of your drive space without deleting a single season of *Game of Thrones*.

High Efficiency Video Coding (HEVC), also known as H.265, is a new video codec that compresses video files while promising not to affect the video quality of your film collection and your arsenal of TV series.

To make use of this drive saver, you will first need an **H.265 converter**. Notable converters include Handbrake, Pavtube Video Converter, Cinemartin Cinec, MediaCoder, FFmpeg, and TDMore.

Upon installation of your preferred converter, add the video you want to convert, then select the output format (we suggest MP4 or MKV) you wish, and finally, select H.265/HEVC as your video encoder under the video, format, or settings tab depending on your converter.

However, note that H.265 may not work on all your players. But before you end up scratching your head in dismay, simply grab a **VLC or DivX Player**, on which most of your videos should work fine.

Besides freeing up memory, this new compression can be a revolutionary step toward the future of online video streaming of Full HD films.

CHOOSE THE RIGHT CONNECTION FOR YOUR TV AND COMPUTER

IF YOU'RE ITCHING TO BUY A SECOND MONITOR FOR YOUR COMPUTER, you may want to check your living room before you fall prey to unnecessary spending. Chances are, you have been overlooking your rarely used TV's potential to be upcycled into a second screen. Let us walk you through the steps of setting up your TV into a working computer monitor.

One of the most basic things to have is a proper connector to bridge your computer to your TV. Most modern HDTVs have HDMI inputs, so what you might need to buy is an HDMI cable.

Note that the other end of the cable will depend on the type of computer or device you plan to connect to. If your computer or device has an HDMI output, an HDMI-to-HDMI cable should work fine. But if your device has a DVI output, you might need an HDMI-to-DVI cable to plug into your HDTV's HDMI input. Some users may opt to use an HDTV as a second or third screen. In this case, a DisplayPort-to-HDMI converter may be what's best.

There are also wireless options to run to: Google's Chromecast that comes as an HDMI dongle; Apple's Airplay that can plug you wirelessly to an Apple TV; and the screen mirroring Miracast for computers with available Windows 8.1, Android 4.2, and newer versions of these operating systems.



BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO BUYING VINYL RECORDS

Words **ELWYN ZALAMEA**

The vinyl record is back and has never been this popular since the early '90s. Hipsters, yuppies, and dormant hippies are on the prowl, digging crates and sifting through record bins in pursuit of analog bliss.

But why vinyl records when even the latest physical media is declining in popularity?

Some say it's the warm and robust analog sound that reels them in. Others say it's the artwork—appreciated with more clarity because of the album jacket's size, a veritable canvas with a captured market; in fact, some of the best album art have become pop culture legends. Even the clicks and pops—surface noise typical of old records—are considered plus points by some collectors. But those who have been at it since they started collecting during the heyday of vinyl records say it's a combination of many things.

Mainly, it's the way of listening to music from a vinyl, a ritual that starts the moment a record is pulled out of its sleeve. It's an old habit that refuses to go away.

If you want this music listening experience and are on the lookout for vinyl records, here are a few tips—and some jargon explanations—to help steer you to the right direction.

WHAT TO BUY

With so many choices available, remember to trust your ears, nothing else. But it is smart to bear in mind that since most of the foreign albums we listen to were recorded in the U.S., these records were originally pressed in the U.S.

Of presses and masters

It is wise to **buy the original pressing or early represses** of any given album as long as a decent copy is available.

First, original pressings, especially the early batches, tend to sound better.

Second, they're cheaper than the 180-gram remasters that the labels are putting out of late.

Third, some new releases sound completely digital, defeating the purpose of buying the more pricey record instead of the compact disc. Riding on the popularity of the vinyl, some of the new represses have been culled from CD masters, with the analog master tapes having been long gone.

Most collectors opt for U.S.-pressed pre-loved records. Others look for copies pressed in Japan. Still, there are those who prefer German-pressed albums. These are all trivial since each album's sound is recorded and engineered differently. It's in the listening where the distinction lies.

Of labels and remasters

In the advent of new technology in audiophile recording, specific labels were noted for auditory excellence. **Columbia's 6-eye and 2-eye labels** were trademarks of excellent recording in the '50s and '60s, and so are sought after by collectors up to the present.

Audiophile remasters from the re-issue label **Mobile Fidelity Sound Lab** are another example. All of their releases are limited and more expensive than the regular vinyl record.

And then there are the records from **Sheffield Lab**, a label specializing in direct-to-master recordings.

WHERE TO BUY

Virtual and physical stores now offer vinyl records.

Online bane and boon

The more convenient source for records is the **internet**. The downside is that if you're buying used, there's no way of checking or testing the record.

There are **social media groups** dedicated to buying, selling, and trading records among its members. Most of the time, members are trustworthy vinyl lovers and can be valuable assets in expanding your collection.

Offline haunts

There are spots in the Metro where hard-to-find vinyl can be found.

There's that artsy enclave in **Cubao** where records have been available for as long as I remember. A nondescript commercial space along **Boni Ave.** houses a used record store known for its fair prices. A good option is the Saturday market in **Greenfield District** where a couple of sellers hold fort, one carrying mostly locally pressed records and the other U.S. pressings; both have great selection at reasonable prices.

As a rule, try to **stay away from mall record stores** because their prices can go double or triple that of independent sellers.

HOW TO BUY

It's always sensible to **start off with a want list**. In the course of looking for these records, you stumble upon interesting pieces of music history. These are the accidental treasures. People make accidental purchases all the time; digging for records is like an adventure, an educational trip in music history.

There's an accepted standard of rating records called the **Goldmine Grading Guide**, which outlines the price and quality of albums from Near Mint to Poor condition. Familiarize yourself with it.

Of course, it's always best to **see and hear what you're buying**.

If testing the album yourself is not an option, here's an important tip: a good seller will test or play-grade each used record before rating and selling it; **look for that cool guy**.

TRAVEL BUDDY: iPHONE 6

Q

Hi, Speed!

I'm going on a one-month backpacking trip, and I need some help deciding what gear to bring.

I want to be able to document my adventures without getting weighed down by bulky gadgets. Do you think it's okay to do away with my big DSLR and just use my phone—an iPhone 6—for taking photos and videos?



Felice Capicoy

A

Hi, Felice. The iPhone 6 is a great all-in-one tool—it's a communication device that doubles as an outstanding camera, so yes, I think you can use your iPhone 6 to capture great travel photos and videos. However, you may want to bring a few other things, too:

- **Power bank.** Shooting with your iPhone and using it to text, call, and surf will drain your battery, so it's only logical to bring a power bank with you.
- **Clip-on lenses.** Check out accessories from Olloclip or Manfrotto. They're small and unobtrusive but can do wonders for your shots.
- **Flash drive.** Transfer your photos at the end of the day to free memory space on your iPhone. Check out SanDisk's iXpand or Leef's iBridge.
- **Tripod.** If you're planning to shoot in low light or take time-lapse videos, a tripod can help steady your shots.

- **Selfie stick.** This will come in handy if you don't want to hand your phone to a complete stranger and ask him to take your picture. Use prudently.

Remember though that more than a great camera, you need to have a good eye to make a beautiful documentary of your travels. Your photos and videos should be able to tell a story. That said, don't forget to enjoy and take it all in without the aid of a camera. Take pictures with your mind and enjoy the whole sensory experience.

Since you'll be leaving your bulky DSLR at home, there's more than enough space in your bag for a pair of **Marshall Major 2** headphones (worth P4,650). Visit us and claim your gift before you leave for your trip. Music is always good company. :)



TURN YOUR PHONE INTO A COMPUTER MOUSE

Dear Speed,

I'd like to be able to do PowerPoint presentations without needing to click on a mouse or my laptop's trackpad. Can I turn my phone into a clicker/computer mouse?

Peter

Hi, Peter. As one would say nowadays, there's an app for that! Check out **Remote Mouse** (remotemouse.net), which is available for Android, iOS (iPhone/iPad), and Windows Phone. Download the app on your phone and then install Remote Mouse Server on your Mac or PC. Once you connect your mobile device and computer to the same network, the mobile app will be able to see the name of your computer. Tap the name to connect the two, and you have an instant wireless mouse!

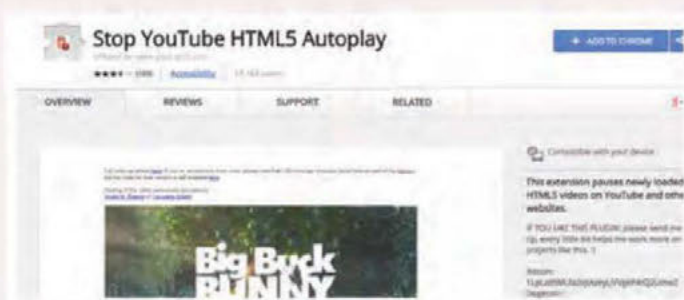


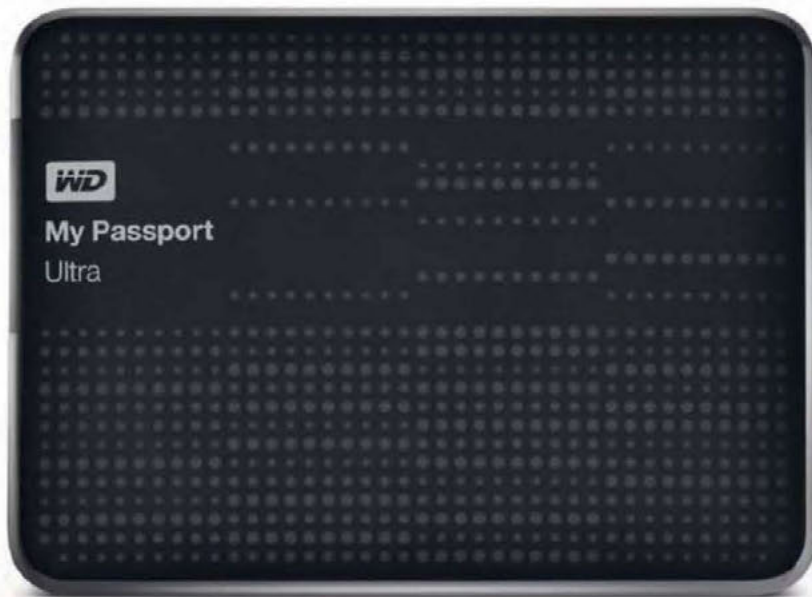
STOP AUTOPLAY

Is there a way to stop autoplaying HTML5 videos on Chrome? Thanks!

Chuck Romero

You're in luck, Chuck. There is a way. You just need to download and install a Chrome extension called **Stop YouTube HTML5 Autoplay**. Enable this extension by Port Zero and HTML5 videos will stop playing automatically. Don't be deceived by the name; it blocks non-YouTube HTML5 videos, too.





WD redesigns My Passport Ultra, 3TB capacity now available

THE NEW, REDESIGNED WD MY PASSPORT ULTRA AND MY PASSPORT FOR MAC PORTABLE HARD DRIVES ARE NOW AVAILABLE IN CAPACITIES OF UP TO 3TB AND IN FOUR STYLISH COLORS: CLASSIC BLACK, BRILLIANT WHITE, WILD BERRY, AND NOBLE BLUE.

The My Passport Ultra portable drives come in 3TB, 2TB, 1TB, and 500GB capacities and feature 256-bit AES hardware encryption for a high level of security with no impact to write-speed or CPU activity. The 256-bit AES hardware encryption protects users' files, folders, photos, videos, and music with a password known only to them. USB 3.0 compatibility provides fast data transfer rates of up to 5 gigabits per second.

The My Passport for Mac portable drives are available in capacities of 3TB, 2TB, and 1TB, and also feature 256-bit AES hardware encryption with USB 3.0 connectivity.



HONDA CLICK 125i GOES TO CEBU

Honda Philippines, Inc. (HPI) unveiled the Honda Click 125i scooter in an event at SM City Cebu. Touted by the company as the first of its kind, the Honda Click 125i is powered by Honda Smart Technology.

Cebuanos lined up to get a chance to test ride the Click 125i, as well as Honda's other two automatic models—the Beat 110 and the Zoomer-X. Top-notch entertainment, freebies, food, and other refreshments were also given to guests and enthusiasts during the two-day event.

Seeing the warm welcome of the Cebuanos, Honda extended its stay to allow more people to experience the Honda Click 125i scooter and other Honda motorcycles.

SAVE THE DATE! WINDOWS 10 ARRIVES JULY 29

Windows 7 and Windows 8.1 users, listen up! Windows 10 will be available as a free upgrade in 190 countries starting July 29.

Customers using Windows 7 and Windows 8.1 are entitled to a free upgrade to Windows 10. You can start reserving your free upgrade through a simple process. Look for a Windows icon in your system tray at the bottom of your screen, click on the icon, and then complete the reservation process.

Windows 10 brings back the Start menu, enabling users to easily find files and pin applications and favorites.



Windows 10 will also include Windows Hello, Microsoft Passport, Windows Defender, and Cortana, the world's first truly personal digital assistant whose AI adapts to a user's individual preference to give timely and relevant recommendations.

Microsoft will also be introducing Microsoft Edge, a new browser that offers built-in inking, sharing, and reading view, as well as the new Office 2016.



CEBUANOS WELCOME THE YAMAHA TRICITY

Yamaha Motors Philippines introduced Cebuanos to a new way of riding in style when it brought the Yamaha Tricity to Cebu for a two-day event.

Held at the open parking of SM City Cebu, the event allowed locals to try out the three-wheeled Tricity. This tri-wheeled scooter is powered by a fuel-injected 125cc, liquid-cooled, four-stroke engine.

Executives of Yamaha Motors Philippines were present during the 2nd day of the event to introduce the new city commuter. Yamaha Club member Gerald Anderson graced the launch.

GLOBE INTRODUCES AFFORDABLE HOTSPOT SERVICE FOR SMEs

Globe Telecom has come up with a new service that can help small and medium enterprises (SMEs) attract more customers by turning their establishments into a hotspot.

Globe's myBusiness WiFi Hub is a new package that allows businesses to earn more by offering customers access to a Wi-Fi connection for a fee.

The WiFi Hub packages start at Plan 1599 for up to 3Mbps speeds and goes up to Plan 4299 for up to 15Mbps speeds. They can also be purchased as an add-on to an existing myBusiness broadband plan for as low as P299 a month.

All WiFi Hub packages come with an LTE router and mini printer that can generate and print individual log-ins and passwords for customers. The Hub can serve up to 20 simultaneous users, and business owners can modify access to either time- or volume-based internet connectivity.



CHEVROLET EXPANDS, BREAKS GROUND IN ILOCOS NORTE

Chevrolet Philippines-The Covenant Car Company Incorporated (TCCCI) boosts its presence in the Northern Luzon area with the ground breaking of Chevrolet Ilocos Norte.

The new dealership is owned by the Laus Auto Group. Chevrolet Ilocos Norte will sit in a 1,400sqm. lot area with a dealership facility that will cover 1,100sqm. It will be able to accommodate four to six car displays, six service work bays, and a modern lounge for customers. Chevrolet Ilocos Norte is set to open toward the last quarter of 2015.



RWM, PRUDENCE TEAM UP FOR DISASTER PREPAREDNESS CAMPAIGN

Resorts World Manila partnered with Prudential Corporation Asia's charitable arm, Prudence Foundation, to create a public service program to increase awareness and promote education for disaster preparedness.

Called "SAFE STEPS," this multi-platform program is comprised of infographic collaterals, as well as a series of educational videos produced by National Geographic Channel. The videos feature Program Ambassador Manny Pacquiao giving instructions and key steps on how to survive natural disasters.

The partnership makes RWM an official distributor of these educational materials that will be displayed during special events and movie screenings, and on LED screens, e-billboards, websites, and print.

Billboard



HARMAN|KARDON-JBL OPENS FAIRVIEW TERRACES STORE

Residents of Fairview, Quezon City now have a new hub to visit for their audio-video needs.

Beyond Innovations, Inc., the Harman group's exclusive Philippine distributor, officially opened the Harman|Kardon-JBL store at the third level of Ayala Fairview Terraces. It joins Harman's other branches in SM Megamall, SM North Edsa, TriNoma, and Bonifacio High Street.

During the launch, customers were treated to exclusive discounts, raffles, free system calibrations, and trade-in schemes. Gracing the event were Hans Tan, president of Beyond Innovations, Inc., Lauro Secreto, brand activation manager of Harman International, and actress Janine Gutierrez.

The showroom houses a number of known Harman brands, including JBL, AKG, Harman Kardon, and Infinity. Products range from speakers, soundbars, audio/video receivers, and headphones.

EPSON, PHOTOGS FOR A CAUSE CAPTURE UNTOLD STORIES

Their mission: take portraits and give the pictures to people who have never had their own photographs.

That is what Photogs For A Cause (PFAC), a group of professional photographers who do pro bono work, did early this year when they visited Barangay Buscalan in Kalinga. The group brought Epson with them.

"It's a simple gift, and yet the joy that they exhibited upon receiving their photos can't be quantified," said Donna Ferro, head of Epson Philippines' Marcom & PR.

Epson provided an L800 genuine ink tank system photo printer to provide stunning prints.



SUZUKI OPENS BIG BIKES CENTER

SUZUKI, TOGETHER WITH WHEELTEK MOTOR SALES CORPORATION, RECENTLY LAUNCHED THE SUZUKI BIG BIKES CENTER IN MAKATI, THE FIRST OF ITS KIND HERE IN THE COUNTRY.

Aside from providing the basics of a Suzuki 3S Shop, the bike haven also offers customers and motorcycle enthusiasts Suzuki genuine parts and customer assistance.

The concept store carries six new products on its floor: 2015 Hayabusa, V-Strom 1000 ABS, V-Strom 650 ABS, Bandit 650 A, GSR 750, and GSX-R 600.



RUNTASTIC ENTERS PH SHORES VIA LAZADA

Runtastic, makers of wearables and digital health and fitness products, is now available in the Philippines and will be sold exclusively online at Lazada Philippines.

Runtastic offers a wide array of products, from digital weighing scales that can compute your BMI (body mass index), to wearables that can track your daily activities 24/7.

There's also a Runtastic app that you can download from the App Store and Google Play Store.



The Veloci Watch Fashion Show led by endorsers Hideo Muraoka and Catriona Gray

VELOCI MAKES A SPLASH WITH NEW COLLECTION

ITALIAN-INSPIRED WATCH BRAND VELOCI MADE A SPLASH AS IT LAUNCHED ITS NEWEST COLLECTION WITH AN ALL-WHITE POOL PARTY AND FASHION SHOW AT THE PALACE POOL CLUB, BGC. DJ Nina Saputit and DJ Lunatics were on deck to provide fresh beats. Nicole Andersson hosted the event, while top models Hideo Muraoka and Catriona Gray showcased the collection on the runway.

"Veloci aims to be known as a brand that is always evolving—one that keeps up with the fashion trends and offers high quality watches at reasonable prices," said Managing Director Marnie Chua. The new collection features integrated silicone straps, exciting new dial colors, stainless steel and gold cases, and 100-meter water resistance.

For fans of laidback and low-key statement pieces, the latest **Cruise** collection comes with integrated silicone straps in different punches of color. The minimalist design of the watch case and the matching color of the dials and strap exude effortless style. The collection is available in red, blue, black, and pink for the stainless steel case version; black for gold PVD version; and black and blue for the rose gold PVD version.

For active people who value passion and self-expression, there's the **Pulse** collection. With dual time display, stopwatch, alarm, illuminator, and a fuss-free rubber strap, it's a statement watch whose presence is felt with every pulse. New models come in combinations of black and blue, black and red, all black, and white and gray.



Sanya Smith and Ornusa Cadness



Veloci endorsers Catriona Gray and Hideo Muraoka



DJ Callum David



Aliya Parcs and Amber Davis



Rima Ostwani



Ariella Arida



DJ Nina Saputit

Store Directory

Acer

Acer Philippines, Inc.
(02) 815-3388
34/F PBCOM Tower, 6795 Ayala Ave.
cor. Herrera St., Makati
acer.com.ph

ASUS

ASUS Technology Philippines, Inc.
(02) 634-0309
4/F Hanston Bldg., Ortigas Center,
Pasig
ph.asus.com

B&O

Living Innovations Corporation
(02) 830-2230/812-2649/894-5766
Unit 207 2/F Makati Shangri-La Hotel
Retail Arcade, Ayala Ave., Makati
livinginnovations.ph

Bitfinder

getawair.com

BlackBerry

Globe Telecom, Inc.
(02) 730-1000
5/F Globe Telecom Plaza 1, Pioneer
cor. Madison St., Mandaluyong
globe.com.ph

Boompods

Boompods Philippines
0925-516-8878
Unit 6J Fort Palm Spring, 30th St. cor.
1st Ave., Bonifacio Global City, Taguig
boompods.com

Brooks

brooksrunning.com

Cloudfone

cloudfonemobile.com

Deus Ex Machina

deuscustoms.com

DJIT

edjing.com

Edox

Available at Lucerne boutiques at
Glorietta 4, Shangri-La Plaza, and
Ayala Center Cebu Mall
edox.ch

Frederique Constant

Montre
(02) 687-3077
G/F 101 The Podium
ADB Ave., Mandaluyong
frederiqueconstant.com

Fujifilm

Fujifilm Philippines, Inc.
(02) 550-2420
10/F Tower 2, The Enterprise, 6766
Ayala Ave., Makati
fujifilm.com.ph

H&M

Available at H&M stores in Robinsons
Magnolia, SM North The Block, SM
Makati, and SM Megamall
hm.com/ph

Happy Mobile

35 Midway Court Bldg. EDSA, Brgy.
Wack-Wack, Mandaluyong

Hartmann

Hartmann Philippines
(02) 813-3739 loc. 215
Rustan's Glorietta 1/F Rustan's Bldg.,
Ayala Ave., Makati
asia.hartmann.com/AS/

Honda

Honda Cars Philippines, Inc.
105 South Main Ave., Laguna
Technopark, Sta. Rosa, Laguna
hondaphil.com

Huawei

Huawei Technologies Phils., Inc.
(02) 815-8808
Unit 5302 53/F PBCOM Tower, Ayala
Ave. cor. Rufino St., Salcedo Village,
Makati
huawei.com/ph

Jays

jays.se

JVC

OE Trading Corporation
(02) 230-5300 loc. 5375
88 Kapiligan St., Brgy. Doña Imelda,
Quezon City

Pismo Digital Lifestyle Store

(02) 942-3249
6/F East Wing Shangri-La Plaza,
Mandaluyong

Lenovo

Lenovo (Philippines) Ltd.
(02) 558-5700
10/F 11th Corporate Center, 11th Ave.
cor. Triangle Dr., Fort Bonifacio, Taguig
lenovo.com/ph

LG

LG Electronics Philippines, Inc.
(02) 902-5544
15/F Legaspi St., Maybunga, Pasig
lg.com/ph

Lily

www.lily.camera

Manfrotto

manfrotto.com

Mango

Available at Mango stores in Abreeza,
Alabang Town Center, Araneta
Center, Ayala Center-Cebu, Ayala
Center-Makati, Bonifacio High Street,
Centrio, Glorietta 1, Eastwood,
Fairview Terraces, Harbor Point, Lucky
Chinatown, Marquee Mall, Newport
City, Robinsons-Manila, Rockwell
Center, Shangri-La Plaza, SM City BF
Parañaque, SM City Cebu, SM City
Clark, SM City Davao, SM Mall of Asia,
and SM Megamall
shop.mango.com/PH/men

Marshall

marshallheadphones.com

Microsoft

Microsoft Philippines
(02) 860-8989
16/F Ayala Office Tower, 6750 Ayala
Ave., Makati
microsoft.com/en-ph/

Mini

British United Automobiles, Inc.
(02) 856-6555
5th Ave. cor. 26th St., Bonifacio Global
City, Taguig
mini.com.ph

Moshi

moshi.com

Mr. Porter

mrporter.com

MyPhone

My Solid Technologies & Devices
Corporation
(02) 837-0195-98
2000 Solid City, Km. 16 East Service
Road, Bicutan, Parañaque
myphone.com.ph

nthing

nthing.net/planty

OPPO

OPPO Concept Store
3/F SM CyberZone, SM Southmall,
Las Piñas
oppo.com.ph

Oris

Watchworks
(02) 911-7878
2/F Ali Mall, Araneta Center, Cubao,
Quezon City
oris.ch/en/

Panasonic

Panasonic Philippines
(02) 284-2301
Barrio Mapandan, Ortigas Ave.,
Taytay, Rizal
panasonic.com.ph

Samsung

Available at all Samsung stores and
authorized retailers
samsung.com/ph

SanDisk

Axis Global Technologies, Inc.
(02) 724-3340
20 North Rd. cor. 3rd Ave.,
Cubao, Quezon City

Millennium Computer Tech. Corp.
(02) 363-7777

53 Tangali St., San Jose, Quezon City
sandisk.com

Sony

Sony Philippines
(02) 878-7600/860-3333
11/F Marajo Tower, 312 26th St., West
cor. 4th Ave., Bonifacio Global City,
Taguig
sony.com.ph

TCL

TCL Philippines
(02) 771-6888
4/F Zen Tower, 1111 Natividad A. Lopez
St., Ermita, Manila
tclphilippines.com

Timberland

Available at Timberland boutiques at
Shangri-La Plaza, SM Megamall, SM
North Edsa, SM City Marikina, SM City
Cebu, SM Lanang, Ayala Center Cebu,
and Limketkai Cdo; Timberland outlets
at Paseo de Sta. Rosa; The Outlets
Pueblo Verde-Cebu, SM Makati,
SM North Edsa, Robinsons Ermita,
and SM Mall of Asia

Veloci

Available at select Asprey Kiosk/
Stalls, L-Time Studio, Time Gear,
Robinsons Department Store, SM
Department Store, and Veloci kiosks
at SM Megamall, SM City San Lazaro,
SM MOA, SM Pampanga, SM Clark,
Market! Market!, SM Fairview,
SM Manila, and Southmall
veloci.ph

Zara Man

Available at Zara Man boutiques at
Shangri-La Plaza Mall, Power Plant
Mall, TriNoma, Greenbelt 5, Glorietta 4,
and SM Mall of Asia

Buyer's Guide

SAVE OR SPLURGE,
THIS LIST IS ALL YOU'LL EVER NEED



126

UNDER
P10,000

129

UNDER
P20,000

132

P20,000
AND ABOVE



Acer Liquid S1
P8,990

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.5GHz quad-core Cortex-A7 processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5.7" 1280 x 720 TFT capacitive display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB
- dual SIM/standby



Acer Liquid Z5
P5,990

- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz dual-core Cortex-A7 processor
- 5MP/VGA rear, 2MP front camera
- 5" 480 x 854 TFT capacitive display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 512MB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth 3.0, microUSB
- dual SIM



ASUS fonepad 7
P6,995

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz dual-core Intel Atom Z2520
- 2MP rear, VGA front camera
- 7" 600 x 1024 capacitive touchscreen
- 4/8GB built-in, microSD up to 64GB, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi 802.11b/g/n, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0
- dual SIM/standby



ASUS MeMO Pad HD 7
P6,995 (8GB)
P8,995 (16GB)

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP (16GB)/2MP (8GB) rear, 1.2 MP (16GB)/0.3MP (8GB) front camera
- 7" 1280 x 800 LED IPS display
- 8/16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB



ASUS MeMO Pad 8
P9,995

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.6GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP rear, 1.2MP front camera
- 8" 1280 x 800 IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Bluetooth 3.0, WLAN, microUSB



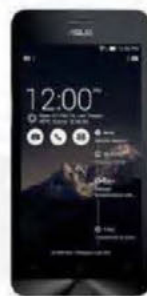
ASUS Zenfone 2 ZE500CL
P7,995

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.6GHz 64-bit intel Atom Z2560 processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front Pixel Master camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, USB, NFC
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 2 ZE551ML
P9,995 (1.8GHz, 16GB built-in, 2GB RAM)

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.8GHz 64-bit intel Atom Z3580 processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front Pixel Master camera
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080 Full HD IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, USB, NFC
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 5
P6,495

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.6/2GHz dual-core processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 display
- 8/16GB built-in, microSD, 1/2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB



Cherry Mobile Alpha Play
P7,999

- Windows 8.1
- 1.33GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3735D Processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 8" 720 x 1280 HD IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microUSB



Cherry Mobile Infinix Pure XL
P6,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.4GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6592
- 13MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5.5" 1280 x 720 HD IPS display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, A-GPS



Cherry Mobile Omega AEON
P5,999

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean with KitKat update
- 1.2GHz Qualcomm MSM8212 Snapdragon processor, Adreno 305 GPU
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" HD IPS display with OGS
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi Hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0, 3G, microUSB



Cherry Mobile Omega Icon
P6,499

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core processor
- 13MP rear, 8MP front camera
- 5" HD IPS display
- 4GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi Hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0



Cherry Mobile Razor 2.0
P6,499

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core processor
- 12MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 4.7" HD IPS display
- 4GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi Hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0, 3G
- dual SIM



Cherry Mobile Superion Endeavor
P5,499

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 7" IPS display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- HSPA+ Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, USB OTG



Cherry Mobile Superion Navigator
P6,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 8" IPS display
- 8GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, 3G



Cherry Mobile Superion Odyssey
P7,499

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 7.85" 1024 x 768 IPS display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, HDMI, USB



Cherry Mobile Superion Vector
P5,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 7" IPS display
- 16GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0
- dual SIM



Cherry Mobile Ultra
P8,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean with KitKat update
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8926 processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 HD display
- 8GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi Hotspot, Bluetooth, GPS



DTC GT17 Jupiter
P6,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MT6582 processor
- 13MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 4.7" 960 x 540 HD display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G
- dual SIM/standby



Gionee GPad G5
P9,450

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.5GHz hexa-core processor, PowerVR Series 5XT GPU
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5.7" 720 x 1280 IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0
- dual SIM



Happy Mobile Aspire
P6,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz octa-core ARM Cortex-A7 Mali-450 MP4 processor
- 13MP rear, 8MP front camera
- 5.5" 720 x 1280 267ppi HD OGS IPS display
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microUSB 2.0, 2G/3G, USB OTG
- dual SIM/standby



Happy Mobile Oracle
P9,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.5GHz octa-core processor
- 13MP rear, 8MP front camera
- 5" HD OGS IPS display
- 8GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, USB OTG



Huawei Honor 4C
P6,390

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz octa-core HiSilicon Kirin 620 chipset
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" 720 x 1280 IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS, microUSB 2.0
- dual SIM/standby



Huawei Honor 4X
P8,290

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat/Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.2GHz octa-core Cortex-A53
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5.5" 720 x 1280 267ppi IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS, microUSB 2.0
- dual SIM/standby



Lenovo A7000
P7,390

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.5GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6752M
- 8MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5.5" 1280 x 720 IPS HD display
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 2GB RAM
- 3G, LTE, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, A-GPS
- dual SIM



Microsoft Lumia 535
P5,990

- Windows Phone 8.1 with Denim update
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 200 processor
- 5MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" 540 x 960 IPS qHD display with Corning Gorilla Glass 3
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, A-GPS, GLONASS
- dual SIM



Microsoft Lumia 540
P7,990

- Windows Phone 8.1 with Denim update
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 200 processor
- 8MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 294ppi HD Laminated IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, free 30GB OneDrive cloud storage, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS, A-GPS, GLONASS
- dual SIM



MyPhone Infinity Lite
P7,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.4GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6592M processor
- 8MP rear with LED flash, 5MP front camera
- 4.7" 720 x 1280 HD IPS display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS, USB OTG
- dual SIM



MyPhone Rio 2
P5,499

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core processor
- 8MP rear with Sony Sensor, 5MP front camera
- 5" 720 x 1280 294ppi IPS HD Full Lamination display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- 3G, HSPA+, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS
- dual SIM/standby



OPPO Joy
P5,990

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz dual-core processor
- 3MP rear, VGA front camera
- 4" WVGA display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 512MB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, Wi-Fi hotspot, DLNA, microUSB
- dual SIM



OPPO Neo 5
P7,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat with Color OS
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MT6582 processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 4.5" 480 x 854 FWVGA IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS, A-GPS



Samsung GALAXY S Duos 2
P7,990

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz dual-core Cortex A9 processor
- 5MP rear, 0.3MP front camera
- 4" 480 x 800 TFT display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 0.75GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, 2G, 3G, USB 2.0 dual SIM



Samsung GALAXY Tab 3 Lite
P7,490

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz dual-core processor
- 2MP rear camera
- 7" 1024 x 600 display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB



Starmobile Engage 8 Quad
P6,990

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1GHz quad-core ARM Cortex A7 processor
- 5MP rear, VGA front camera
- 7.85" capacitive IPS display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi



Starmobile Engage 8 3G
P9,990

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core MediaTek MT6589 processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 7.85" 1024 x 768 IPS capacitive display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G



Starmobile Engage 9i
P9,990

- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean
- 2GHz dual-core Intel Atom Z2580 processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 8.9" 1920 x 1200 IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, USB OTG



Starmobile Knight Luxe
P7,690

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.4GHz octa-core ARM Cortex A7
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera; 1080p @ 30fps
- 5" 720 x 1280 AMOLED display
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, microUSB
- dual SIM



Starmobile Knight Vision
P9,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.3GHz quad-core ARM Cortex A7 MediaTek MT6582
- 13MP rear with OIS, 8MP front camera; 1080p @ 30fps
- 5.5" 720 x 1280 267ppi IPS multi-touch capacitive screen
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 64GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, microUSB, Digital TV, GPS, A-GPS
- dual SIM/standby



Starmobile UP Max
P7,490

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.3GHz quad-core Arm Cortex-A7
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera; 1080p @ 30fps
- 5" 720 x 1280 IPS Multi-touch capacitive display
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, microUSB
- dual SIM



Xiaomi Redmi 2
P5,999

- MIUI 6 based on Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz 64-bit quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410
- 8MP BSI rear, 2MP front camera
- 4.7" 720 x 1280 312ppi Sharp IPS display
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi 802.11b/g/n, Bluetooth 4.0, USB OTG, GPS, 4G LTE
- dual SIM/standby



ZTE Grand X2
P5,280

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core MediaTek MT6589 processor
- 5MP rear, VGA front camera
- 5" 960 x 540 display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G
- dual SIM



ZTE Grand X2 L
P6,980

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz quad-core processor
- 8MP rear, VGA front camera
- 5.5" qHD IPS display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G
- dual SIM/standby



Acer Liquid Jade
P14,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.3GHz quad-core ARM Cortex-A7 processor
- 13MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth, microUSB
- dual SIM



Acer Liquid E700
P10,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core ARM Cortex-A7 processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 IPS LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB, A-GPS
- triple SIM (microSIM)



Apple iPad mini 2 (Wi-Fi)
P15,490 (16GB)
P17,990 (32GB)

- iOS 8
- A7 chip with 64-bit architecture and M7 motion coprocessor
- 5MP rear, 1.2MP front camera
- 7.9" 2048 x 1536 LED-backlit Retina display
- 16/32GB built-in, 512MB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0



ASUS fonepad 8
P11,995

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.3GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3530
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 8" 800 x 1280 IPS LCD screen
- 8/16GB built-in, microSD up to 64GB, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi 802.11b/g/n, Bluetooth 4.0 A2DP, microUSB 2.0
- dual SIM



ASUS MeMO Pad 10
P13,995

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.6GHz quad-core processor
- 2MP rear, 1.2MP front camera
- 10.1" 1280 x 800 LED IPS display
- 8GB/16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Bluetooth 3.0, WLAN, microUSB



ASUS Zenfone 2 ZE551ML
P13,995 (32GB)
P14,995 (64GB)

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 2.3GHz 64-bit intel Atom Z3580 processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front Pixel Master camera
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080 Full HD IPS display
- 32/64GB built-in, microSD, 4GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, USB, NFC
- dual SIM



ASUS Zenfone 6
P11,995

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 2GHz dual-core processor
- 13MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 6" 1280 x 720 display
- 8/16/32GB built-in, microSD, 1/2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB



BlackBerry Z3
P10,990

- BlackBerry 10
- 1.2GHz dual-core Qualcomm MSM8230 processor
- 5MP rear, 1.1MP front camera
- 5" 540 x 960 capacitive display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1.5GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, 3G, HDMI, microUSB



BlackBerry Leap
P13,490

- BlackBerry 10.3.1
- 1.5GHz dual-core Qualcomm MSM8960
- 8MP rear, 2MP front
- 5" 1280 x 720 294ppi display
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0



Cherry Mobile Alpha Morph
P11,999

- Windows 8.1
- 1.33GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3735D processor
- 2MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 10" 720 x 1280 HD IPS display
- 32GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, USB OTG
- Keyboard dock



Cherry Mobile Cosmos Z2
P12,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.7GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6592 processor, MALI 450MP GPU
- 18MP rear, 8MP front camera
- 5" IPS LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0



Cherry Mobile Omega Infinity
P14,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.7GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6592 processor
- 18MP rear, 8MP front camera
- 5.5" IPS LCD
- 32GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, 3G/4G



Cherry Mobile Titan Pro
P10,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core MediaTek MT689 processor, PowerVR SGX544 GPU
- 12MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5" IPS LCD
- 4GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi Hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB
- dual SIM



Gionee Elife S5.1
P12,499

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor
- 8MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 4.8" 720 x 1280 306ppi HD AMOLED display
- 16GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi 802.11b/g/n, 3G HSPA+, 4G LTE, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS



Happy Mobile Prive
P11,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz octa-core processor
- 13MP rear, 8MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 5.5" HD OGS IPS Display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi Miracast, GPS
- dual SIM



HP Slate6 VoiceTab
P14,990

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 6" 720 x 1280 IPS capacitive display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi and Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth 3.0, microUSB



Huawei Honor 6+
P17,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.8GHz quad-core Cortex-A15 + 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7
- 8MP rear, 8MP front camera; 1080p@30fps video
- 5.5" 1080 x 1920 IPS LCD
- 32GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS
- dual SIM/standby



Lenovo A8-50 Tablet
P10,499

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek MTK8121/MTK8382 processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 8" 1280 x 800 HD display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, 3G



Lenovo P70
P11,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6752
- 13MP AF rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 294ppi HD IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 32GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi 801.11 b/g/n, Bluetooth 4.0, 4G LTE, GPA, A-GPS, OTG
- dual SIM/standby



Lenovo S860
P15,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz quad-core MediaTek 6582 processor
- 8MP rear, 1.5MP front camera
- 5.3" 1280 x 720 IPS capacitive display
- 16GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 3.0, microUSB
- dual SIM/standby



Lenovo S90
P13,999

- Android 4.4.4 KitKat with Vibe UI 2.0
- 1.2GHz 64-bit quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 410
- 13MP PureCel rear, 8MP front camera
- 5" 1280 x 720 294ppi Super AMOLED HD display
- 32GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, GPC, A-GPS, NFC, 4G LTE
- dual SIM/standby



Lenovo Vibe X2
P18,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6595M True8Core processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 5" 1920 x 1200 IPS LCD
- 32GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0, 4G LTE, HSPA+
- optional dual SIM/standby (microSIM)



Lenovo Yoga Tablet 2 8"
P13,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.33GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3745 processor
- 8MP rear, 1.6MP HD front camera
- 8" 1920 x 1200 IPS LED LCD Touch
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 64GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi 802.11a/b/g/n, microUSB, USB OTG, Bluetooth 4.0



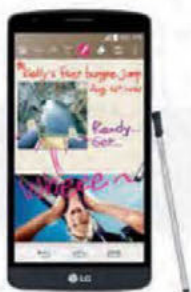
Lenovo Yoga Tablet 2 10"
P19,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.86GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3745 processor
- 8MP rear, 1.6MP HD front camera
- 10.1" 1920 x 1200 IPS LCD Touch
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 64GB, 2GB RAM
- LTE, Wi-Fi 802.11a/b/g/n, Wi-Fi hotspot, microUSB, USB OTG, Bluetooth 4.0



LG G3 Beat
P13,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor
- 8MP rear, 1.3MP front camera
- 5" 720 x 1280 IPS capacitive display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0, 3G



LG G3 Stylus
P16,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7 MediaTek MT6582 processor
- 13MP rear, 1.3MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 5.5" 540 x 960 IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0
- dual SIM/standby (microSIM)
- stylus



LG G Pad 8.3
P16,990

- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 600 processor
- 5MP rear, 1.3MP front camera
- 8.3" 1920 x 1200 Full HD IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, HDMI, microUSB



Microsoft Lumia 640 XL
P11,990

- Windows Phone 8.1 with Denim update
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor
- 13MP AF rear, 5MP front camera
- 5.7" 1280 x 720 294ppi HD IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, free 30GB OneDrive cloud storage, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, HDMI, microUSB



MyPhone Infinity
P12,999

- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.7GHz octa-core Mediatek MT6592 processor
- 16MP rear, 8MP front camera
- 5" Full HD IPS display; Corning Gorilla Glass 2
- 16GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, USB OTG
- dual SIM



OPPO Find 5 Mini
P13,990

- Color OS (based on Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean)
- 1.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 4.7" 540 x 960 IPS display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 3.0, microUSB



OPPO R1x
P15,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat with ColorOS
- 1.5GHz Snapdragon 615 octa-core
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" 720 x 1280 HD IPS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- 3G, LTE, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, GPS, A-GPS, GLONASS
- dual SIM



OPPO Yoyo
P10,990

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.3GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 4.7" IPS display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 2.1, GPS, microUSB 2.0
- HotKnot: screen-to-screen transmission



Samsung GALAXY Grand 2
P13,990

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor
- 8MP rear, 1.9MP front camera
- 5.25" 1280 x 720 TFT display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1.5GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, 3G, USB 2.0, microUSB
- dual SIM



Samsung GALAXY Mega 5.8
P18,990

- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.4GHz dual-core processor
- 8MP rear, 1.9MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 5.8" 540 x 960 TFT display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1.5GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microUSB
- optional dual SIM (microSIM)



Samsung GALAXY S4 Zoom
P14,990

- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.9GHz quad-core Cortex-A9 processor, Mali-400 GPU
- 16MP rear, 1.9MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 4.3" 540 x 960 Super AMOLED display
- 18GB built-in, microSD, 512MB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC, microUSB



Sony Xperia E3
P10,490

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8926-2 Snapdragon 400 processor
- 5MP rear, VGA front camera; 1080p video recording
- 4.5" IPS capacitive display
- 4GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB, 4G
- microSIM



Sony Xperia M2
P14,190

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor
- 8MP rear, VGA front camera
- 4.8" 540 x 960 TFT capacitive display
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, DLNA, NFC, microUSB



Sony Xperia M2 Aqua
P16,490

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon processor
- 8MP rear, VGA front camera; 1080p video recording
- 4.8" IPS capacitive LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- NFC, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB, 4G LTE
- microSIM



Sony Xperia T2 Ultra
P18,990

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 1.4GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 processor
- 13MP rear, 1.1MP front camera
- 6" 720 x 1280 IPS LCD
- 8GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, DLNA, NFC, LTE, microUSB



Starmobile ENGAGE 10 Pro
P11,999

- Windows 8.1
- 1.8GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3735F Baytrail-T processor, Intel HD graphics 7th-gen
- 10.1" 1280 x 800 16:10 150ppi LCD
- 32GB built-in, microSD up to 64GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microUSB, USB 2.0, miniHDMI



Starmobile Knight X
P15,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2GHz octa-core MediaTek MT6595M processor
- 13MP Sony Exmor RS rear, 5MP front camera
- 5.5" 1920 x 1080 IPS LCD
- 32GB built-in, 3GB RAM
- microUSB 2.0, USB OTG, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, LTE, 3G
- dual SIM



Xiaomi Mi 3
P10,599

- MIUI V5 (based on Android 4.3)
- 2.3GHz Qualcomm Snapdragon 800 processor
- 13MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5" 1920 x 1080 Full HD display
- 16GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, NFC



Xiaomi Mi Pad
P10,990

- MIUI based on Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.2GHz quad-core NVIDIA Tegra K1 processor
- 8MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 7.9" 1536 x 2048 IPS display
- 16GB, microSD up to 128GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, USB OTG



ZTE Vec
P11,980

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- Octa-core processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera; 1080p video
- 5" HD multi-touch display
- 8GB built-in, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G, GPS, microUSB
- dual SIM



ZTE Vec 4G
P12,980

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 400 MSM8926
- 8MP rear, 1MP front camera
- 5" 720x1280 IPS LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS, USB 2.0, microUSB, 4G LTE



- Apple iPad Air**
Wi-Fi: P20,490 (16GB); P22,990 (32GB)
Wi-Fi + cellular: P26,990 (16GB); P29,490 (32GB)
- iOS 8
 - A7 chip with 64-bit architecture and M7 motion processor
 - 5MP rear, 1.2MP front camera
 - 9.7" 2048 x 1536 LED-backlit Retina display
 - 16/32/64/128GB built-in, 1GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, LTE



- Apple iPad mini 2 (Wi-Fi + cellular)**
P21,990 (16GB)
P24,490 (32GB)
- iOS 8
 - A7 chip with 64-bit architecture and M7 motion processor
 - 5MP rear, 1.2MP front camera
 - 7.9" 2048 x 1536 LED-backlit Retina display
 - 16/32/64/128GB built-in, 512MB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, LTE



- Apple iPhone 5c**
P22,490
- iOS 7
 - 1.3GHz dual-core A7 chip with 64-bit architecture, M7 motion co-processor
 - 8MP rear, 1.2MP front camera; 1080p video recording
 - 4" 1136 x 640 widescreen multi-touch Retina display
 - 8GB built-in, 1GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microUSB



- Apple iPhone 5s**
P30,490 (16GB)
P33,490 (32GB)
- iOS 7
 - 1.3GHz dual-core A7 chip with 64-bit architecture, M7 motion co-processor
 - 8MP with 1.5μ pixels rear, 1.2MP front camera; 1080p video recording
 - 4" 1136 x 640 widescreen multi-touch Retina display
 - 16/32GB built-in, 1GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microUSB
 - Fingerprint sensor



- Apple iPhone 6**
P35,990 (16GB)
P41,990 (64GB)
P47,990 (128GB)
- iOS 8
 - A8 chip with 64-bit architecture and M8 motion coprocessor
 - 8MP rear, 1.2MP front camera
 - 4.7" 1334 x 750 326ppi LED-backlit Retina display
 - 16/64/128GB built-in, 1GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC
 - Fingerprint sensor
 - nanoSIM



- Apple iPhone 6 Plus**
P41,990 (16GB)
P47,990 (64GB)
P53,990 (128GB)
- iOS 8
 - A8 chip with 64-bit architecture and M8 motion coprocessor
 - 8MP rear, 1.2MP front camera
 - 5.5" 1920 x 1080 401ppi LED-backlit Retina display
 - 16/64/128GB built-in, 1GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC
 - Fingerprint sensor
 - nanoSIM



- ASUS Padfone Infinity**
P37,990 (32GB)
P41,990 (64GB)
- Android 4.1 Jelly Bean
 - 1.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm APQ8064T Snapdragon 600 processor, Adreno 320 GPU
 - 13MP rear, 2MP front camera; 1080p video recording
 - 5" 1920 x 1080 Super IPS display
 - 32/64GB built-in, 2GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, NFC



- ASUS Transformer Book T100**
P23,995
- Windows 8.1
 - 1.3GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3740 processor
 - 1.2MP front camera
 - 10.1" 1366 x 768 display
 - 32/64GB built-in, 2GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 3.0, microUSB



- BlackBerry Classic**
P20,990
- BlackBerry OS 10.3.1
 - 1.5GHz dual-core Qualcomm MSM 8960
 - 8MP rear, 2MP front camera; 1080p @ 30fps HD video recording
 - 3.5" 720 x 720 294dpi HD touch screen
 - 16GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 2GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC, Miracast, microUSB 2.0



- BlackBerry Passport**
P35,790
- BlackBerry 10.3
 - 2.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 processor
 - 13MP w/ OIS and LED flash rear, 2MP front camera
 - 4.5" 1440 x 1440 453ppi IPS display
 - 32GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 3GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct, Bluetooth 4.0, A2DP, NFC, Miracast, USB 2.0



- BlackBerry Z10**
P29,990
- BlackBerry 10 upgradable to v.10.1
 - 1.5GHz dual-core processor
 - 8MP rear, 2MP front camera; 1080p video recording
 - 4.2" 768 x 1280 capacitive display
 - 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G, NFC, microUSB



- Gionee Elife E7**
P24,500
- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
 - 2.2GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 800 processor
 - 16MP rear, 8MP front camera
 - 5.5" 1080 x 1920 Full HD IPS display
 - 32GB built-in, 3GB RAM
 - Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, 3G, microUSB


Gionee Elife S5.5
P21,999

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.7GHz octa-core Cortex-A7 processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5" 1080 x 1920 Super AMOLED capacitive display
- 16GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct, Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB, USB OTG


Huawei Ascend Mate 7
P27,890

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.8GHz Cortex-A15 + quadcore 1.3GHz Cortex-A7 HiSilicon Kirin 925 processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 6" 1080 x 1920 IPS LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, NFC, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0


Huawei Ascend P7
P20,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat with Huawei Emotion UI 2.3
- 1.8GHz quad-core Hisilicon Kirin 910T
- 13MP rear with flash, 8MP front camera
- 5" 1920x1080 Full HD INCELL touch-sensitive screen
- 16GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0


Lenovo Miix 2
P21,999

- Windows 8.1
- 1.8GHz quad-core Intel Atom processor
- 5MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 8" 1280 x 800 HD IPS display
- 64GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB


Lenovo ThinkPad 8
**P25,490 (Wi-Fi only)
P30,000 (3G)**

- Windows 8.1
- 2.4GHz quad-core Intel Z3770 processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 8.3" 1200 x 1920 multi-touch IPS display
- 64/128GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G, microHDMI, USB 3.0
- microSIM (WWAN version)


Lenovo Vibe Z2 Pro
P29,999

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 processor
- 16MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 6" 1440 x 2560 IPS capacitive LCD
- 32GB built-in, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, microUSB, GPS, 3G
- dual SIM (microSIM)


Lenovo Yoga Tablet 2 Pro
P33,999

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.33GHz quad-core Intel Atom Z3745 processor
- 8MP rear, 1.6MP HD front camera
- 13.3" 2560 x 1440 IPS LED LCD Touch
- 32GB built-in, microSD up to 64GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, MiMo, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB


LG G Pro 2
P32,990

- Android 4.2.2 Jelly Bean
- 2.26GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 800 processor
- 13MP rear, 2.1MP front camera
- 5.9" 1080 x 1920 True IPS display
- 16/32 built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC, microUSB


LG G3
**P29,990 (16GB)
P33,990 (32GB)**

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 chipset, Adreno 330 GPU
- 13MP rear, 2.1MP front camera
- 5.5" 1440 x 2560 True HD display
- 16/32GB built-in, microSD, 2/3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct, DLNA, Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0


LG Nexus 5
P22,500

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.2GHz quad-core Krait 400 processor
- 8MP rear with OIS, 1.3MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 5" 1920 x 1080 multi-touch IPS display
- 16GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 4G LTE, microUSB


Microsoft Surface Pro 2
**P59,999 (128GB)
P74,999 (256GB)**

- Windows 8.1 Pro
- 4th-gen Intel Core i5 processor
- 720p HD rear and front camera
- 10.6" 1920 x 1080 Full HD LCD
- 64/128/256/512GB built-in, microSD, 4/8GB RAM,
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, USB 3.0


OPPO Find 7
P25,990

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5.5" 1440 x 2560 IPS display
- 32GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC, microUSB

NEW!

LG G4
P31,990 (Gold, black, and white variants)
P32,990 (Leather variants)

- Android 5.1 Lollipop
- 1.8GHz hexa-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 808 processor
- 16MP f/1.8 rear with OIS 2.0, 8MP f/2.0 front camera
- 5.5" 2560 x 1440 Quad HD IPS Quantum display
- 32GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC, USB 2.0, 4G, LTE

The LG G4 is an excellent smartphone with good specs and a bevy of camera controls that will appeal to those who are into mobile photography.



OPPO Find 7a
P22,990

- Android 4.3 Jelly Bean
- 2.3GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801 processor
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5.5" 1080 x 1920 display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM



OPPO N3
P29,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.3GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 801
- 16MP motorized rotating camera
- 5.5" 1080 x 1920 Full HD IPS LCD
- 32GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, GPS, A-GPS, Bluetooth 4.0, LTE
- dual SIM



OPPO R5
P21,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 615
- 13MP rear, 5MP front camera
- 5.2" 1080 x 1920 423 ppi AMOLED display
- 32GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB 2.0, A-GPS, GPS
- microSIM



Samsung GALAXY Alpha
P29,990

- Android 4.4.4 KitKat
- 1.8GHz quad-core Cortex-A15 + 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A7 processors
- 12MP rear, 2.1MP front camera; 2160p video recording
- 4.7" 1280 x 720 HD Super AMOLED display
- 32GB built-in, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, DLNA, Wi-Fi Hotspot, LTE, microUSB
- nanoSIM



Samsung GALAXY Note 4
P37,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.7GHz quad-core Krait 450, 1.9GHz octa-core (1.9GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 + 1.3GHz quad-core Cortex-A57) processor
- 16MP rear, 3.7MP front camera
- 5.7" 2560 x 1440 Quad HD Super AMOLED
- 32GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.1, USB 2.0
- S Pen



Samsung GALAXY Note 8.0
P21,990

- Android 4.1.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.6GHz quad-core processor
- 5MP rear, 1.3MP front camera
- 8" 1280 x 800 TFT display
- 16/32GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, DLNA, 2G, 3G, USB 2.0, microUSB



Samsung GALAXY Note 10.1 2014 Edition
P25,990

- Android support
- 1.9GHz Big core quad + 1.3GHz Little core quad processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 10.1" 2560 x 1600 LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, DLNA, microUSB



Samsung GALAXY Note EDGE
P43,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.7GHz quad-core Qualcomm Snapdragon 805 processor
- 16MP rear, 3.7MP front camera
- 5.6" 2560 x 1600 quad HD+ Super AMOLED
- 32GB built-in, microSD up to 128GB, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.1, USB 2.0, IR LED
- S Pen



Samsung GALAXY NotePRO 12.2
P39,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 1.9GHz + 1.3GHz quad-core processor
- 8MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 12.2" 2560 x 1600 LCD
- 32/64GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, ANT+, USB 3.0



Samsung GALAXY S5
P34,990 (16GB)

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core processor
- 16MP rear, 2MP front camera
- 5.1" 1920 x 1080 FHD Super AMOLED display
- 16/32GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC, USB 3.0



Samsung GALAXY S6
P35,990 (32GB)
P41,990 (64GB)

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.5GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 + 2.1GHz quad-core Cortex-A57 processor
- 16MP rear with OIS, 5MP front camera
- 5.1" 2560 x 1440 577ppi Super AMOLED display
- 32/64GB built-in, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, LTE, Bluetooth 4.1, NFC, microUSB 2.0, Samsung Pay



Samsung GALAXY S6 EDGE
P41,990 (32GB)
P47,990 (64GB)

- Android 5.0 Lollipop
- 1.5GHz quad-core Cortex-A53 + 2.1GHz quad-core Cortex-A57 processor
- 16MP rear with OIS, 5MP front camera
- 5.1" 2560 x 1440 577ppi Super AMOLED dual edge display
- 32/64GB built-in, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, LTE, Bluetooth 4.1, NFC, microUSB 2.0, Samsung Pay



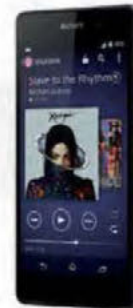
Samsung GALAXY Tab S 8.4
P24,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 1.9GHz + 1.3GHz quad-core processor
- 8MP rear, 2.1MP front camera
- 8.4" 2560 x 1600 LCD
- 16/32GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Wi-Fi Direct, DLNA, Wi-Fi hotspot, Bluetooth 4.0 A2DP, microUSB 2.0



Samsung GALAXY Tab S 10.5
P29,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.3GHz quad-core Snapdragon 800 processor
- 8MP rear, 2.1MP front camera
- 10.5" 2560 x 1600 LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, GPS, 3G



Sony Xperia Z2
P31,990

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.3GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8974AB processor
- 20.7MP rear, 2.2MP front camera
- 5.2" 1920 x 1080 Full HD TRILUMINOS display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, NFC, USB 2.0, microUSB
- waterproof, dustproof



Sony Xperia Z2 Tablet
P33,190

- Android 4.4 KitKat
- 2.3GHz quad-core Qualcomm Adreno 330 processor
- 8.1MP rear, 2.2MP front camera
- 10.1" 1920 x 1200 display
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, DLNA, NFC, microUSB
- waterproof, dustproof



Sony Xperia Z3
P34,990

- Android 4.4.4 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8974AC Snapdragon 801 processor
- 20.7MP rear, 2.2MP front camera; 2160p video recording
- 5.2" 1080 x 1920 IPS capacitive LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- NFC, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB, 4G LTE
- nanoSIM



Sony Xperia Z3 Compact
P29,490

- Android 4.4.4 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8974AC Snapdragon 801 processor
- 20.7MP rear, 2.2MP front camera; 2160p video recording
- 4.6" 720 x 1280 IPS capacitive LCD
- 16GB built-in, microSD, 2GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB, 4G LTE
- nanoSIM



Sony Xperia Z3 Tablet Compact
P31,990

- Android 4.4.2 KitKat
- 2.5GHz quad-core Qualcomm MSM8974AB Snapdragon 801 processor
- 8.1MP rear, 2.2MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 8" 1200 x 1920 TFT LCD
- 16/32GB built-in, microSD, 3GB RAM
- NFC, Wi-Fi, Bluetooth 4.0, microUSB, 4G LTE
- nanoSIM



Vertu Constellation
P287,000

- Android 4.2 Jelly Bean
- 1.7GHz dual-core Qualcomm Snapdragon processor, Adreno 320 GPU
- 13MP rear, 1.3MP front camera; 1080p video recording
- 4.3" 720 x 1280 display
- 32GB built-in, microSD, 1GB RAM
- Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3G, microUSB

THE PRODUCTION OF PURPOSE

A SNAPSHOT OF THE LIFE, LOVE, AND RESPONSIBILITY IN PHILIPPINE CINEMA AND THEATER



As

KARL MEDINA



a newcomer to the indie film industry, I can say that I am still very much feeling my way around its numerous crevices and corners. And while I may not have a complete grasp and understanding of how things work, especially below the surface, I can say that I am more or less aware of the effects that cinema and the performing arts have on their respective audiences.

I believe, too, that the mastery of this leads to the birth of memorable and iconic, if not groundbreaking, films. A gift as greatly special as this demands a greater sense of responsibility, a responsibility that is inevitably and ultimately tied to its purpose.

Alive & kicking

Judging from the numerous get-togethers, parties, and mid-week and weekend hangouts with filmmakers, creators, directors, producers, and various production people, I can say that the industry as a whole is still pretty much alive and kicking. Films are still being made and plays are still being staged, even with the terrifying uncertainty of audience turnouts.

Personally, I can't say that I know of any wealthy production people. Justly compensated? Maybe a few. But generally, most of those working in the industry still live trying to make ends meet.

You will often hear remarks of exasperation, especially during toxic-level production schedule times. Cries of "*Ayoko na!*" or "*Bakit ko ba ginagawa sa sarili ko 'to?*" to "*Last na talaga 'to. Ayoko na gumawa ng pelikula/dula!*" are usually thrown across tables inhabited by emptied and emptying bottles of beer. And interestingly yet, you still see these people a year, two, three, and even a decade later still making films and plays.

While it is unclear to me why my acquaintances and friends subject themselves to these conditions, I can only assume that it is, as cliché as it may sound, done in the name of love—the love for cinema, the love for theater.

And I am thankful for them, for without them, productions would have faltered and eventually died away. These people have found their purpose, and have fallen in love with it.

Purpose & responsibility

I am also assuming that this happens because of a need to relate, share, create, and tell a story. But I think that it should be understood and made clear that with this need, a sense of social responsibility must be imbued.

Especially in a time of turmoil and deeper wanting, cinema and the performing arts must no longer function for itself. It must not exist only for the sole purpose of telling a story, but it must now hold to itself a great sense of responsibility to give back something meaningful to its audiences.

When you command a large percentage of the market, a vast multitude of viewers, you must never forget that you directly influence your audiences. Which in turn means that you are then indirectly influencing the next cluster of decisions they are about to make in their lives, whether they realize it or not.

I believe in uplifting and giving your audiences something to chew on and digest, inspiring them to make meaningful changes in their lives. Important and meaningful changes that may someday help uplift society, and ultimately the country.

I also believe that we should all share this purpose, not just as a director, filmmaker, writer, or member of a production, but as a Filipino as well. 

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XTRA 93
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PETRON XTRA ADVANCE, is the 93 octane gasoline with an advance fully synthetic detergent additive that effectively cleans the engine for a more fuel-efficient operation.

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OCTANE

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